

REES, MORGAN GORONWY. REES,  
MARGARET EWING

**PF604583/V2**

**SEE ALSO LIST INSIDE COVER**

Serial No.	Star Designation	Date	Serial No.	Star Designation	Date	Serial No.	Star Designation	Date
SEE ALSO LIST INSIDE COVER								
KV			2			4		
						6		
						0		
						4		

S. 960 Edn2

PF604583/V2



PF 604,583

FILE CLOSED

VOLUME 2

R E E S, GORONWY

R E E S, MARGARET

00608

e Also

FILE CLOSED

Officer or Serial No.	Section	Date	Officer or Serial No.	Section	Date
		112 MAY 1972			14 DEC 1993
		117 JUL 1972			17-5-95
		25 JUL 1972			
		112 SEP 1972			22/07/08
		18 SEP 1972			
		6 DEC 1972			05/05/2010
		9 JAN 1973			22/2/2012
		12 FEB 1973			5/7/12
		19 MAR 1973			
		29 MAR 1973			
		3 AUG 1973			
		15 AUG 1973			
		110 JAN 1974			
		114 JAN 1974			
		28 MAR 1974			
		31 OCT 1974			
		5 NOV 1974			
		22 APR 1975			
		24 JUL 1975			
		29 JUL 1975			
		31 JUL 1975			
		20 AUG 1975			
		5 JAN 1976			
		17 FEB 1977			

**LIMITED CIRCULATION**

Please refer to S. Form 239 before sending this file to another Section.

S Form 238r

**Y FILE**

THIS FILE WHEN IN TRANSIT MUST BE IN A CLOSED ENVELOPE, ADDRESSED PERSONALLY TO THE OFFICER.

**HELD by R.5**

The file should be passed for P.A. to R.5.

Transit slips in respect of this file should always be forwarded to R.5.

PF 604,583

VOLUME 2

FILE CLOSED



Volume 1 closed at serial 47a dated 21.7.52

# MINUTE SHEET

Reference.....

	48.	
17.9.52	<del>Suspension of T.C.</del> T.C. re-imposed	48a
	49.	
21.9.52	Extract from article in Sunday Times of 21.9.52 ment. REES	49a
	50.	
25.9.52	B.4.B. briefing sheet	50a
	51.	
25.9.52	Extract from B2A/B2B note on article in Sunday Times of 25.9.52	51a,
	52.	
2.10.52	Extract from WJS/B2A/report on enquiries made to trace [REDACTED]	52a
	53.	
2.10.52	Source report [REDACTED] business associate of REES	53a

5.11.52	55.	
9.11.52	Extract from B2A note re interview with [REDACTED] mentioning REES	55z
	Suspension of T.C.	55a
	56.	
26.11.52	Extract from T.C. on PHILBY mentioning REES	56a
	57.	
20.2.53	Article on "Witness" by Whittaker Chambers by REES	57a
	58.	
27.2.53	Criticism of "The Missing Diplomats" by CONNOLLY by REES	58a

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 January 2022

(1630)Wt39541/1032  
1/51 805,000 JCS  
Ltd. Gp736/209  
(REGIMENT)  
CODE 5-34-0

[OVER



59.

3.12.53. D. note re. interview with [redacted] ment. REES.

59a.

60.

15.12.53. D.1.A. minute re. REES.

60a.

61.

30.12.53. To G.P.O. requesting R. of C. on REES at Sonning.

61a.

62.

31.12.53. D.1.A. note re. REES being elected Principal of the University of Aberystwith.

62a.

63.

31.12.53. D.1.A. note on the reimposing of a T/C on Sonning 3197.

63a.

64.

2.1.54. D.1.A. note re. REES' new address.

64a.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT REMAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR THE HOME  
DEPARTMENT  
1954



MINUTE SHEET

Reference.....

*Rev. 7/1*  
~~D.D.G. through D.I.~~ *7.1.54*

65.

Morgan Goronwy REES.

The subject of this file was for many years a close friend of Guy BURGESS.

REES made a statement on 6 June 1951 in which he alleged that he knew that BURGESS was a Soviet agent and that he assisted BURGESS in his clandestine activities. In view of the letter from BURGESS recently received by BURGESS' mother, REES' case is now being re-examined and I am therefore applying for a letter check on REES at his home address, Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire.

The necessary forms are attached.

*Evelyn M G Barnett*  
E. McBarnet.D.I.A.  
7.1.54.

66.

7.1.54.

To G.P.O. imposing a H.O.W. in REES.

66a.

67.

7.1.54.

To G.P.O. re. opening of letters etc.

67a.

13.1.54.

Permanently suspending T.C. on REES (H.O.W. retained)

67b.

68.

14.1.54.

To G.P.O. imposing a T/C on Aberystwyth 7083 (REES).

68a.

69.

14.1.54

Copies of letters to REES from: Lucy Leake. E.J. Wainwright  
G.N. Beckett (2)

69a.

15.1.54.

List of REES' correspondence on 14.1.54.

69b.

[OVER]



70.

16.1.54. Copies of letters to REES asking for payment of bills.

70a.

71.

18.1.54. List of REES' correspondence on 16.1.54.

71a.

72.

19.1.54. List of REES' correspondence on 18.1.54.

72a.

73.

21.1.54. List of REES' correspondence on 19.1.54.

73a.

74.

21.1.54. List of REES' correspondence on 20.1.54.

74a.

75.

21.1.54. Copy of a letter to REES from James STERN.

75a.

76.

22.1.54. List of REES' correspondence on 21.1.54.

76a.

77.

23.1.54. List of REES' correspondence on 22.1.54.

77a.

78.

25.1.54. List of REES' correspondence on 23.1.54.

78a.

79.

26.1.54. Copy of letter to REES from Arthur DENNIS.

79a.

80.

29.1.54. List of REES' correspondence on 27.1.54.

80a.

81.

29.1.54. Copy of letter to REES from Jim HALEY.

81a.

82.

29.1.54. List of REES' correspondence on 28.1.54.

82a.



Reference PF. 604,583.MINUTE SHEET

83.

30.1.54. List of REES' correspondence on 29.1.54.

83a.

84.

30.1.54. Copy of letter to REES from Margaret S. DAVIES.

84a.

85.

1.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 30.1.54.

85a.

86.

3.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 2.2.54.

86a.

87.

4.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 3.2.54.

87a.

88.

8.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 6.2.54.

88a.

89.

9.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 8.2.54.

89a.

90.

10.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 9.2.54.

90a.

91.

10.2.54. Copy of letter to REES from FOOTMAN.

91a.

92.

10.2.54. Copy of letter to REES from Jim HALEY.

92a.

93.

11.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 10.2.54.

93a.

94.

11.2.54. Copy of I/C letter from REES to FLANAGAN, dated 9.2.54.

94a.

[OVER]



95.

12.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 11.2.54.

95a.

96.

13.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 12.2.54.

96a.

97.

15.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 13.2.54.

97a.

98.

17.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 15.2.54.

98a.

99.

17.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 16.2.54.

99a.

100.

18.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 17.2.54.

100a.

101.

19.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 18.2.54.

101a.

102.

20.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 19.2.54.

102a.

103.

22.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 20.2.54.

103a.

104.

23.2.54. Copy of T.C. on REES.

104a.

105.

23.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 22 February 1954.

105a.

106.

24.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 23.2.54.

106a.

107.

24.2.54. Copy of I/C letter from Louis enclosing one from Arthur DENNIS.

107a.

108.

24.2.54. Copy of letter from Isaiah BERLIN.

108a.



MINUTE SHEET

Reference PF. 604,583.

109.

25.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 24.2.54. 109a.

110.

26.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 25.2.54. 110a.

111.

27.2.54. List of REES' correspondence on 26.2.54. 111a.

112.

1.3.54. List of REES' correspondence on 27.2.54. 112a.

113.

2.3.54. List of REES' correspondence on 1.3.54. and copy of letter from Arthur DENNIS. 113a.

114.

3.3.54. To G.P.O. cancelling H.O.W. on REES (Letters) 114a.

115.

3.3.54. To G.P.O. Suspending T.C. on REES temporarily. 115a.

116.

4.3.54. List of REES' correspondence on 2.3.54. 116a.

117.

5.3.54. List of REES' correspondence on 3.3.54. and copy of note from 'O' 117a.

118.

5.3.54. List of REES' correspondence on 4.3.54. and copy of letter from Arthur DENNIS. 118a.

119.

6.3.54. List of REES' correspondence on 5.3.54. 119a.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 OCTOBER 2020

[OVER]



## MINUTE SHEET

120.

15.3.54. To G.P.O. suspending T.C. on REES indefinitely.

120a.

121.

16.7.55 Note by. D.I.A re imposition of telechecks on REES/BLUNDEN/FLANAGAN/FRACH. 121a

122.

22.7.55 Note by D.I.A re 121a.

122a

123.

0.7.55. Note for file

123a

124.

D.I.A/R.T.R. Discussed 2/8  
 No further action. R. Reed 2/8.

Please see note at 123a and have a word with me about it.

G.R. Mitchell.

D.  
30.7.55.

G.R. Mitchell.

125.

4.8.55 Note by D.I.A re [redacted] at 122b.

125z

4.8.55 Telecheck material mentioning REES's cancellation of visit to Russia

125a

126.

8.8.55 Telcheck material on REES.

126z

11.8.55 Note by D.I.A re serial 125a.

126a

127.

16.8.55 Telecheck material mentioning Marguerite CUCKFORTH of B.B.C.

127a

128.

16.8.55 Telecheck material again mentioning Marguerite CUCKFORTH, B.B.C.

128a

129.

16.8.55 Note by D.I.A re telecheck material at 127a re cancellation of visit to Russia.

129a



MINUTE SHEET

130.

20.8.55. TC material

130a.

131.

22.8.55. TC material

131a.

132.

23.8.55. TC material.

132a.

133.

D.1.

You will see from recent serials on this file that the B.B.C. have asked Goronwy REES to visit Russia for them with the object of travelling about the country for about three weeks and, upon his return, giving a series of three talks over the radio about his visit. According to 127a these three talks will probably take place in the Home Service before October 27 and according to our latest information from the telecheck REES hopes to leave this country about 27 August, returning on about 18 September. This morning I gave this information

to the Foreign Office Security Department warning them of REES's impending visit to the USSR so that they could send out a note of caution to the Embassy in Moscow.

Since we spoke I was forced to consult de la Mare's secretary about the previous references that we had made in correspondence with the Security Department about REES and a few minutes after I had done so Street telephoned me to say that he had at that moment an enquiry about REES upon his desk to ask if there was any security objection to the Foreign Office sponsoring a visit to the USSR on behalf of the B.B.C. I told Street that it was upon that very point that we intended to write to de la Mare and that our letter would be simply to remind the Foreign Office of REES's connection with BURGESS. I said also that I did not think that we ought to raise any security objection to this visit as REES was a very well known personality and the B.B.C. were most anxious to send him to Russia. Street went on to say that he thought Sir William Hayter was in the Foreign Office at that moment and they could easily warn him about REES. I told Street that that was another point that I would be making in the letter; that we believed that Goronwy REES might be known to Sir William Hayter and we thought that he might try to stay with Hayter at the Embassy in Moscow.

Street intends to say that there is no security objection to REES's visit to Russia and is very anxious to get our letter. I have therefore prepared a draft for you at serial 134a.

D.1.A.

23.8.55.

134.

*R. T. Reed.*  
R. T. Reed.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 OCTOBER 2020

134a.

[OVER

9211 W22971/4445  
9 52 1,100,000  
JC&SLtd  
Gp736/209  
(REGIMENT)  
CODE 5-34-0

23.8.55. (Draft letter to F.O. replaced by 135a)



135.

24.8.55. To F.O. [REDACTED]

135a

136.

24.8.55. D.1 note on conversation with F.O.

136a

137.

25.8.55. Note re F.O. informing that REES will not go to Russia.

137a.

138.

1.9.55. Note for file.

138a.

139.

1.9.55. Loose minute to F.2.

139a.

141.

5.9.55. Ext. from TC re failure of visit to Russia.

141a.

142.

15.9.55. TC material

142a

26.9.55. TC Material.

142b.

143.

29.9.55. Note for file

143a

144.

*En 29/9*  
D.1.A/R.T.R.

Please see 143a.

D.  
29.9.55.*G.R. Mitchell*  
G.R.Mitchell.

145.

7.10.55. Summary on REES sent to FO under cover of FF 604558 Supp. C.

145a.



MINUTE SHEET

146.

24.10.55. Copy of minute from DDG to D.1 re interviewing [REDACTED]

146a.

147.

26.10.55. D1 note re interview [REDACTED]

147a.

148.

24.11.55. Form suspending indefinitely T.C. on REES.

148a.

149.

24.11.55. Note by D1A re suspension of T.C.

149a.

150.

16.12.55. Ex.t.from loose minute to D.1. re HOWs.

150a.

151.

21.12.55. Form cancelling telecheck on REES.

151a.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 OCTOBER 20 20

152.

4.3.56 Cutting from the PEOPLE/ on BURGESS /advertising future article  
believed written by REES.

152a

6.3.56. Copy of letter from Admiral Thomson to Stuart Campbell,  
of the PEOPLE requesting to see "trailer" of article.

152b

153.

8.3.56 Photostat of article on BURGESS to be published in the  
PEOPLE advertised at 152a.

153a

8.3.56 Note by L.A. on discussion on proposed article in PEOPLE. 153b

8.3.56 Top Admiral Thomson returning original "trailer" of article. 153c

[OVER]

(1921) W622971/4443  
9 52 1,100,000  
JC&SLed  
Gp736/202  
REGIMENT  
CODE 5-340



154.

*9.3*  
 D.G. (through D. & D.1.)

We have now obtained a sight of the first article in the series advertised in the PEOPLE on 4 March (152a). A copy is at 153a and it is apparent from it that the author is REES. L.A., Mr. Hill, is today to consider with D.P.P. - unofficially - what action might be taken when the article is published.

We are anxious to know the reaction of colleagues of REES to the publication of this article and his reaction to any measures which the authorities may take. I am therefore making an urgent application for the telephone check upon REES at Aberystwyth 7083 installed at Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire, where he resides.

I understand there would be difficulties in operating a letter check upon REES in view of the position he holds in the life of Aberystwyth and owing to other factors. At this stage I am therefore not making an application for a letter check, but I have asked the G.P.O. to add his address to the list of those who may receive correspondence from BURGESS from Russia.

D.1.A.  
 9.3.56

*R.T. Reed*  
 R.T. Reed

155.

9.3.56 Note by D.G. re discussions with Sir Frank Newsam on proposed PEOPLE article.

155a

156.

9.3.56 Note by L.A. re discussion with Admiral Thomson ~~and~~, discussions with D.G., D., D.1. & D1A/RTR, and 'off the record' discussion with the D.P.P. on proposed PEOPLE article.

156a.

157.

9.3.56. Note by D.1.A. re proposed PEOPLE article.

157a



Reference PF.604.583  
Vol.2.

158.

9.3.56

Note by D.1.A. to Night Duty Officer re operations due to take place on weekend 10th/11th March 1956.

158a.

159.

9.3.56

Note by D.1.A. re discussions with G.P.O. and A.2.A. for operation of check on REES.

159a

160.

10.3.56

Formal application for H.O.W. on REES

160a.

161.

10.3.56

Letter to G.P.O. re application for warrant.

161a

162.

10.3.56

Note by D. re action taken in respect of proposed PEOPLE article.

162a

163.

11.3.56

Cutting from the PEOPLE - article by REES re BURGESS

163a

164.

11.3.56

Cutting from the PEOPLE - introduction to 163a.

164a

(2065)  
Wt25439/4765  
9/53 865,000  
JC&SLtd  
Gp736/209  
(REGIMINT)  
CODE 18-75

"FILE CLOSED"

"FILE CLOSED"



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

164

*The People.*

Date...11...3...56...

**Burgess: now  
the TRUTH****The  
paper  
you  
HAVE  
to  
read!****A TRAITOR  
UNMASKED**

ONLY a glimpse of the truth about the operations of Burgess and Maclean, the missing diplomats, has come out in the report of the Government's inquiry.

They haven't dared to tell it all — particularly the facts about Guy Burgess. Why not?

The public should know and "The People" intends to tell them—to show how and why Burgess was the greatest traitor this country has ever known.

He was a human monster and a Jekyll and Hyde who used his depravity to gain possession of vital information about the espionage activities of the Foreign Office.

**HIS CLOSEST  
FRIEND HAS  
TOLD IT ALL**

AT last Guy Burgess has been stripped bare—by his closest friend for 20 years.

This man, who holds a high academic position, is so disgusted by the covering up that is going on he has come forward to tell all he knows about Burgess.

His revelations are frightening. He shows how Burgess held in his grip important Foreign Office officials.

Turn to Page Three and read the first of these disclosures. Then ask yourself: **HOW COULD IT HAPPEN IN WHITEHALL?**

163a



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

The People

Date 4-3-52

# 'Now I will show how he was the greatest traitor of them all!'

FOR 20 years one incredibly vicious man used blackmail and corruption on a colossal scale to worm out Britain's most precious secrets for the rulers of Russia.

That is the truth about Guy Burgess, the missing diplomat, that even today the men whose duty is to protect us from foreign spies dare not admit.

Only last week a committee appointed by the Prime Minister presented a report on the state of our security services that dodged this shameful truth.

The report spoke of the danger of employing in confidential posts men with "serious failings" such as "drunkenness, addiction to drugs, homosexuality, or any loose living." But it failed to disclose how one man who was guilty of all these failings—Guy Burgess—wrought more damage to Britain than any traitor in our history.

And it failed to warn the nation that men like Burgess are only able to escape detection because THEY HAVE FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES WHO PRACTISE THE SAME TERRIBLE VICES.

It is the failure of the Government on these two grave counts that has at last prompted me to tell all I know about Burgess and so place the public in possession of facts that ought never to have been concealed.

I am not going to express any opinion about the legal and moral guilt of homosexuals. I am only concerned to tell you here about how one of them here able to betray his country get away with it for so long.

## We shared

And there is no one apart from me who has the knowledge to do so.

For I have known Guy Burgess for 24 years. We were constantly in each other's homes. We shared anxieties and joys.

# GUY BURGESS

## stripped bare!

## HIS CLOSEST FRIEND SPEAKS AT LAST

● This is the first of a profoundly disturbing series of articles. They reveal appalling facts about Guy Burgess, the missing diplomat, that the authorities HAVE NOT DARED TO LET THE PUBLIC KNOW.

● These disclosures come from the one man in a position to know the complete story. He was Burgess's closest friend for more than 20 years and now occupies a high academic post.

● Only he can reveal the full depth of corruption that lay behind Guy Burgess's treachery. Now he speaks about the friend who was the greatest traitor of all.

We went to parties together. We had the same friends.

He is godfather to one of my children. He wrote to me frequently when we were separated. He has even sent me messages of friendship from Moscow.

He deceived me about only one thing—his treachery to Britain. And it is the way he duped me, his other friends, the Foreign Office and our Security chiefs that is the most astounding and terrifying part of my story.

Guy Burgess is the greatest traitor in our history. Yet for 20 years he played the part of a stalwart Briton.

He was a Communist of the deepest Red. Yet for a long time he convinced everybody that he had Nazi sympathies.

His Jekyll and Hyde career was a masterpiece of duplicity. And there can be no better start to my story than to tell of one of the most fantastic incidents of his truly amazing double life.

In 1949 he set out for a holiday. It was supposed to be a quiet break from his duties at the Foreign Office, where he was Personal Secretary to Hector McNeill, Minister of State and second-in-command to Ernest Bevin.

But his trip to North Africa in search of sunshine turned out to be one long alcoholic carouse.

He drank his way through France and Spain. He stopped off for special celebrations in Madrid and Gibraltar.

Then he capped the lot with a party in Tangier that made alcoholic—and diplomatic—history.

For he drank so much that he scandalised both his fellow guests and—when they got to hear of the party—his chiefs at the Foreign Office in London.

It was not his nauseating display of drunkenness that upset the Foreign Office. They knew Guy Burgess already as a champion alcoholic.

## He blabbed

No—Whitehall's concern was over one appalling crime that he committed in his cups.

HE BLABBED THE NAMES OF TWO TOP BRITISH SECRET SERVICE MEN IN SPAIN.

The storm broke over Burgess when he returned to London. His chiefs had received bitter protests from our Secret Service agents that Burgess had exposed them and gone a long way towards ruining their confidential work.

Yet he was charged—believe it or not—with mere "indiscretion."

What was his purpose in making contact—as I can now disclose he did—with our leading secret agents in Gibraltar and Tangier?

There can be no doubt now that Guy Burgess was, in fact, simply carrying out his treacherous work as a Russian spy.

He was attempting to gather information about our Secret Service network in Western Europe for transmission to Moscow.

His "indiscretion" in disclosing the names of our agents at the party in Tangier was sheer accident. He had drunk so much that he was incapable of controlling his tongue.

Nevertheless it should have meant the end of Burgess as a diplomat. Even the tolerant men who ruled the Foreign Office realised that a blabber like Guy Burgess was hardly the type of man to hold a post in one of our key Government departments.

## Terrified

And Burgess himself was terrified of being sacked. He told me so.

Indeed, I can claim the doubtful credit of having saved Guy Burgess from dismissal and so—without realising it—helped Britain's most dangerous spy to carry on his monstrous betrayals.

I came into the affair when Guy showed me the memorandum he had drawn up in reply to the charge of indiscretion. He asked me what I thought of it.

"It is too long, complicated and argumentative," I said.

"Cut it down, write as little as possible about the charge itself—and say you reserve the right to ask for a board of inquiry."

"This last point was, in my view, the most powerful. I know a good deal about the Foreign Office bureaucrats.

They will do almost anything to avoid a formal board of inquiry, which takes up everybody's time, often involves bringing witnesses from long distances and produces endless paper wrangles.

Certainly the threat of a board of inquiry worked this time.

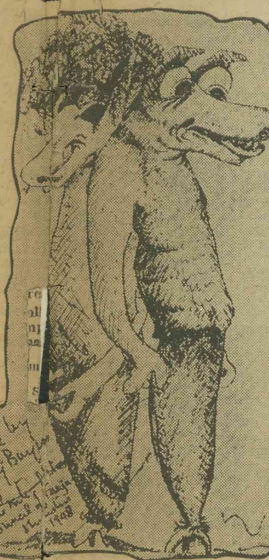
GUY BURGESS, THE RUSSIAN SPY, WAS JUST GIVEN A "REPRIMAND."

Now it is possible to find excuses for the Foreign Office men who let Burgess off so lightly. They did not know, after all, that he was a Soviet agent.

But they, or the Security officers who advise them, should have known. They had every reason to know.

For I must now inform the public of some breath-taking facts that no spokesman of the British Government has dared to disclose.

Guy Burgess was on intimate terms with a number of the



## Two monsters that sprang from a monster's brain

When Burgess "doodled," the nightmare fantasies of his monstrous life came to the surface. This is the repulsive drawing he made of a double-bodied monster while he listened to speeches at a Foreign Ministers' conference. WAS HE DRAWING A MONSTER?

High officers of our Secret Service.

He knew many of our leading agents all over the world.

HE CERTAINLY DISCLOSED TO HIS RUSSIAN MASTERS THEIR NAMES AND SECRET FUNCTIONS.

He penetrated the secrets of our security system—without himself ever being suspected by the British spy and counter-spy chiefs who were his friends.

To understand how he achieved all this I must take you right back to the beginning when Guy Burgess was a Communist at Cambridge University. It was there that I first met him in 1932.

I was a Fellow of one of the most famous Oxford colleges. Guy was on a visit from Cambridge, where he was the most brilliant undergraduate of his time.

He was not only brilliant; he had compelling charm. He was the most fascinating conversationalist I had ever come across.

And since I am going to be perfectly frank, I want to avow here and now that I was exceedingly fond of this strange and in many ways terrible man.

It proved to be the decisive event in his life. It marked the beginning of his long and treacherous service in the Soviet cause.

For the central feature of that stay in Moscow 24 years ago was a long, secret interview with Nikolai Bukharin, one of the most famous leaders of the Communist International.

When he returned to London, Guy told me very little of what was said at that fateful interview. But its fruits were not long in ripening.

And strange fruits they were! For this convinced Communist suddenly resigned from the Party and quarrelled violently

with all his Red friends. He declared that Communism was a reactionary movement, that the real progressives were on the extreme right and that his sympathies now lay with the German Nazis and the Italian Fascists.

To me he trotted out a confusing set of arguments to account for his astonishing change of front. I did not follow all of them, but I was at any rate convinced of his sincerity.

For on leaving Cambridge he did not associate with his old friends of the left. Instead, he sought out, first, Victor Rothschild, now Lord Rothschild, who had been a fellow undergraduate.

## Banker!

He asked for a job at the famous private bank of the Rothschild family. And, so Guy told me, he advised the bank on political matters!

His next move took him much further to the right. He became private secretary to a Conservative M.P.

By now I had become more than a little distressed at Guy's swing to Nazism. But during a conversation that I shall never forget he gave me remarkable evidence that the "swing" was not all it seemed.

Our talk took place in my London flat. I was then working as a journalist on the Conservative weekly "The Spectator." Guy turned the conversation to a long review I had written of a book on the

one masterpiece Guy seemed to believe it.

I asked him why he thought it so brilliant. He paused for a moment. Then, with a portentous note in his voice, he replied:

"I think it shows that you have the heart of the matter in you."

For a moment I was mystified. Then I guessed what he meant. My review had dealt with the problem of the distressed areas in a way that could have commanded the assent of Left Wingers.

"I am an agent"

Guy seemed to be hinting that, at heart—and in spite of his open Nazi sympathies—his views were still left!

Before I could put this startling deduction to Guy, he gave me an even greater shock by saying very slowly and with the utmost gravity:

"I WANT TO TELL YOU THAT I AM A COMINTERN AGENT AND HAVE BEEN EVER SINCE I LEFT CAMBRIDGE."

I was stunned. There was a long silence. Then I recovered myself sufficiently to say: "I don't believe you."

"Why not?" said Guy. "Why else do you think I left the Communist Party and took an absurd job with that M.P.?"

"Do you think I really believed all that rigmarole about the 'progressive' Nazis?"

"I invented all that, I had to. The Party told me to break off all connection with them, to quarrel with all my Communist friends. So I pretended to become a Fascist."

It was utterly incredible. But, even supposing it was all true, why was Guy telling his monstrous secret to me?

I asked him just that. His reply sent a tremor of dismay down my spine.

"Because I want you to work for me," he said.

NEXT WEEK: How Burgess named a famous British scholar as his fellow Soviet agent. His spying work during the war. How he got a blackmail hold on some of his highly placed friends.



Copy for PF.604,558 Supp.C.

1620

Note for PF.604,583.

On 8 March L.A. obtained through his channels a copy of the article on BURGESS which was to be published in the 11 March issue of the "People". Later on that day de la Mare and [redacted] attended a meeting in this office to discuss the implications of the article. Both of them were subsequently kept in touch with developments.

On the morning of 9 March L.A. saw the D.P.P. After this meeting arrangements were made for Mr. Skardon to try to get in touch with REES by telephone on 11 March, in order to obtain REES' acknowledgment that he was the author of the article and to solicit an early interview with him. In the event of REES' agreement Mr. Skardon and Mr. Reed would see REES at Aberystwyth on 12 March. The line they would take would be to say that it appeared from advertisements published by the "People" that REES possessed more information about matters of espionage import than he had disclosed in June 1951. He was now being invited to volunteer this further information to the authorities. In the event of REES either declining to see Mr. Skardon and Mr. Reed or, when he saw them, of refusing to answer their questions, he would then be told that action might follow under Section VI of the O.S.A. 1920.

On 9 March de la Mare and I consulted about the terms of any Foreign Office statement that might be made in answer to press enquiries on 11 March or the subsequent day. We agreed to recommend that, if REES' article proved to be unsigned, the Foreign Office reply should be:-

"We do not know for certain who the author of this article is but we believe that we have identified him from the contents of the article. Immediate steps are being taken to confirm our surmise. In the meantime no further comment can be made."

In the event of REES signing the article with his own name, the Foreign Office would say:-

"Mr. Goronwy REES, the author of this article, volunteered a statement to the security authorities in June 1951 shortly after BURGESS' disappearance. That statement was on the lines of the article which he has now contributed to the "People". Various security enquiries were undertaken as a result of Mr. REES' statement."

Later on 9 March de la Mare told me that Dean and he had submitted the foregoing to Sir I. Kirkpatrick. The latter had adopted what de la Mare called a novel approach to this subject. Kirkpatrick had said in effect that, if the press asked questions about this article, they were to be told that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had asked the Foreign Office to economise in manpower; the BURGESS and MACLEAN department of the Foreign Office had therefore been disbanded; and no further answers on this subject would now be given.

I said that I thought this was an admirable reply and I hoped it would be given. de la Mare said, more seriously,

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 OCTOBER 2020



- 2 -

162a

that he believed that Sir I. Kirkpatrick was addressing a minute to those concerned in the Foreign Office to the effect that the BURGESS and MACLEAN case was ancient history; that there had now been a debate on it in both Houses; that as a result a conference of Privy Councillors had been set up; that they had now reported; and that the Prime Minister had announced to the House H.M.G.'s acceptance of their recommendations. The Foreign Office had a great number of pressing and immediate tasks to perform and they could not spend their time dealing with matters of past history.

*G.R. Mitchell*

G.R. Mitchell.

D.  
10.3.56.



SECRET

1619

PF.604.583/D1A/RTR

10th March 1956

Dear Denman,

I am making an application for the resumption of the telephone check upon Morgan Goronwy REES at ABERYSTWYTH 7083, installed at Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire, where he resides. This is in connection with a series of articles which are expected to begin in "The People" on 11 March, of which REES is believed to be the author.

Yours sincerely,

*R.T. Reed*  
R.T. Reed

Major A.E. Denman, M.B.E.,  
G.P.O.

SECRET

DIA/MS  
10/3



SECRET.

10th March 1956

1717

160a

To THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL, and all others whom it may concern:

I hereby authorize and require you to record all telephone conversations on the telephone line number: **ABERYSTWYTH 7083**

and to produce the record for my inspection.

For so doing this shall be your sufficient Warrant.

*One of Her Majesty's  
Principal Secretaries of State.*

Morgan Goronwy REES, who uses this number, has admitted having received an espionage assignment from Guy BURGESS on behalf of the Russian Intelligence Service

PF.604,583/D1A/RTR

S. Form 56A.

DA/KRS  
10/3



Reference PF.604,583  
Copies on: PF.604,529  
and PF.605,558  
Supp.C.

159a

N O T E  
-----

I spoke to Mr. Denman this afternoon to enquire when the telephone check upon REES would be operating. He said that his engineer would be travelling to Aberystwyth tomorrow morning, but unfortunately would not arrive until about 4 p.m. The check would not therefore be operating until about 7 p.m. I also told him that it was our intention to get Mr. Skardon to ring up REES on Sunday morning, to invite him to make a Statement, and that we hoped to record his conversation with REES. Although we should obtain this conversation on the REES check at Aberystwyth, it would be advisable to make a record of the conversation that took place on the telephone number in London. This would take place on WHITEhall 2017 - a telephone installed in the bedroom of Mr. Skardon's flat at 41 South Audley Street and for which we should not require a warrant in order to operate a check. Mr. Denman said that he would arrange for calls on this number to be recorded from Sunday morning onwards.

I then spoke to Mrs. Grist and arranged with her that immediately the check upon REES came through it would be taken on the monitor and that I should be telephoned as soon as her assistants obtained any information bearing upon the movements of REES. I also arranged for her to liaise with Mr. Denman about the recording of the conversation on Sunday morning, on WHITEhall 2017.

D.1.A.  
9.3.56

*R.T. Reed*  
R.T. Reed



PF.604,583

1589

Night Duty OfficerWeekend 10th/11th March 1956Morgan Goronwy REES

We have received information that an article is to be published on Sunday 11 March in the newspaper "The People" which will deal with BURGESS' espionage. This article is thought to have been written by REES, who was a friend of BURGESS for many years. REES is the Principal of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, and as soon as the article in "The People" has appeared it is the intention to send a Security Service Officer to Aberystwyth to see REES.

In order to be informed of REES' activity, a telephone check is in operation and is being continuously monitored by the Sixth Floor (Whitehall 2545).

The check upon REES is expected to come into operation at about 7 p.m. on Saturday evening 10 March, and I have asked the Sixth Floor to ring me at my home Livingstone 3918 if they should receive any information which they think I should have.

Unless the article in the "People" differs radically from that which we have seen so far, the plan is that Mr. Skardon will telephone REES at his home (Aberystwyth 7083) to ask for an interview. If he agrees to give one, Mr. Skardon and I will begin our journey to Aberystwyth before lunch on Sunday and travel by car. In my absence, any information you may want to pass about this case should go to Mr. Courtenay Young on Reigate 5447.

D.1.A.  
9.3.56

*R.T. Reed*  
R.T. Reed



Reference PF.604,583 ✓  
Copy for: PF.604,529

1579

N O T E

Yesterday afternoon, L.A. obtained a galley-proof of the article due to appear in the People on Sunday 11 March. The article was not signed, but from its content it was apparent that it was written by Goronwy REES.

2. D.G. discussed the article with L.A., D., D.1. and D.1.A/Mr. Reed, and subsequently in D.'s room [redacted] and de la Mare, of the Foreign Office, considered it.

3. This meeting was followed by a further short one between D.G., [redacted] de la Mare and D.

4. It was agreed that L.A. should seek an 'off the record' interview with D.P.P. first thing this morning and that D. and Mr. de la Mare should consult about the answers that might be given by the Foreign Office to questions that might be raised at any Press Conference that should be called on Sunday, or first thing on Monday morning.

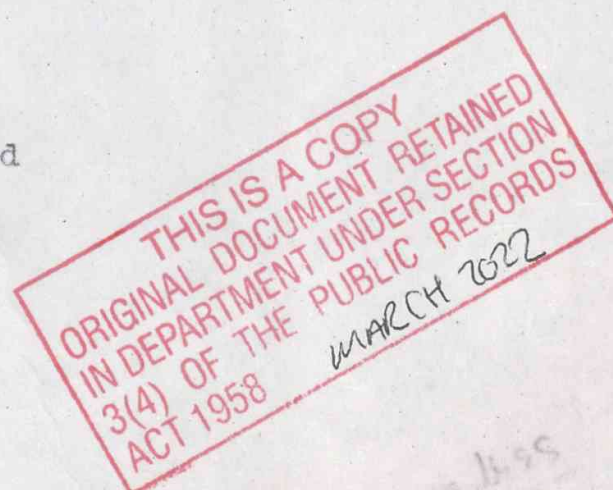
5. At 11.15 this morning L.A. visited the D.P.P., taking with him:-

- (a) a photostat copy of the article to appear in the People - the original of which had been returned to Admiral Thomson;
- (b) the Statement of REES, made to Mr. Skardon in June 1951;
- (c) the Statement of BLUNT, made to Mr. Skardon in June 1951;
- (d) a summary of the career of REES, which had originally been prepared for the House of Commons debate.

6. D.G. took a similar set of documents when he went to see Sir Frank Newsam at 10.30 a.m. this morning.

D.1.A.  
9.3.56

*R.T. Reed*  
R.T. Reed



(2065)  
W25439/4765  
9/53 865,000  
JC&SLtd  
Gp736/209  
(REGIMINT)  
CODE 18-75



Copies PF 604529 Burgess  
PF 604582 Blunt.

1569

I spoke to Admiral Thomson this morning and asked him to let me know the form of the letter he was proposing to send to "The People". I pointed out to him that the line we were taking here was that as the article did not offend any 'D' Notice, we could not object to publication. I told the Admiral that I did not want him to say to "The People" that there was no security objection to the article.

Admiral Thomson said he had already rung up "The People" and told them that there was no security objection, but he said he had not yet written to them. I arranged with him that he would write to "The People" returning the proof of the article and merely stating that as the article did not offend 'D' Notice No.1 there was no objection to its text.

A further meeting with the Director General took place, at which D. D1 and D.1.a (Mr. Reed) were present. It was agreed that I should consult the Director of Public Prosecutions as to whether there was a case for bringing into play the provisions of Section 6 of the Official Secrets Acts against Mr. Goronwy REES, who was clearly the author of the article. We went through Mr. Goronwy REED's statement which he made on 6th June, 1951, and came to the conclusion that the text of the present article was based upon this statement, but it was quite clear that at no time had Mr. REES told us the name of the famous writer who, according to the 'trailer', BURGESS named as his fellow Soviet agent.

The D.G. said he would tell Sir Frank Newsam when he saw him this morning that we were discussing the question of the possible use of the powers given by Section 6 of the Official Secrets Acts against Mr. Goronwy REES.

I saw Sir Theobald Mathew, Director of Public Prosecutions, and asked him if he would give me a conference 'off the record'. This he readily agreed to do. I opened my discussion by telling the Director that I was seeking his advice on the problem in general, and one particular aspect of it in particular. I told the Director that, as he knew, through Admiral Thomson we had arrangements with the press whereby the press submitted to the Admiral for our clearance articles having a security bearing. "The People" had submitted the article I was about to discuss with the Director in this manner, and therefore no action could be taken on it at the moment. We should have to wait and see whether "The People" in fact published the article in accordance with the text they had submitted.

I then asked the Director to read the passages sidelined in ink on the proof, which the Director did. I then told him that the author of this article was Mr. Goronwy REES who was at present the Principal of Aberystwyth University College in Wales. Mr. REES had been a close associate of BURGESS in the 1930s at least, and had been connected in some way with BURGESS in his espionage work. I showed to the Director, and he read and returned to me, the statement we had taken from Mr. Goronwy REES dated 6.6.51, and I pointed out to the Director that he would see from this statement that Mr. REES had certainly not told the whole truth. He says in the first instance that BURGESS told him he was working on behalf of an anti-Fascist organisation, his task



- 2 -

being to collect political information, and later he told him that this organisation was in fact the Comintern, or rather a secret branch of it. Mr. REES later admits in this statement that BURGESS asked him to help him in carrying out this work, but later he says that BURGESS never asked him to obtain any information, though he further states - "I wished to have no more to do with his organisation", from which it is quite clear that he must have been active in this organisation and must in fact have provided BURGESS with some kind of political information.

I told the Director in connection with this case that I had not submitted the case to him to consider the prosecution of Mr. Goronwy REES, because in my view there was not sufficient evidence based on the statement alone, and at that time we were heavily investigating the whole aspect of the BURGESS case. The Director said he quite understood the whole position, and agreed that on the statement alone there was not enough evidence to justify a prosecution of Mr. Goronwy REES.

I then showed the Director a copy of the statement which BLUNT had made on 6th June, 1951. The Director said he noticed that the point had not been put to BLUNT that, according to Goronwy REES, BLUNT was another of BURGESS's sources. I said that was the case, and the reason was that we were closely investigating BLUNT's activities, and we are still investigating them. We merely asked BLUNT to give his own account of his association with BURGESS. He was not questioned on his statement.

The Director said he could quite see that this was a very difficult matter for us to handle, and the article might well cause us a considerable embarrassment.

I then said that my real object in calling to see him was to ask whether he would consider advising the Home Secretary to exercise the powers given under Section 6 of the 1920 Official Secrets Act, as amended by the 1939 Act, to compel Goronwy REES to disclose information about the famous writer whom he was proposing to name as a Soviet agent.

We had a discussion on this matter, and the Director said he certainly could not advise the Home Secretary to issue any such direction at the moment. He thought we should wait and see what was contained in the next article, and that in any event Goronwy REES should be asked to give this information and if he refused the Director agreed there were grounds for exercising the powers conferred by Sec.6. The difficulty he felt at the moment was that there had been no refusal by Mr. REES to furnish the information. The matter was thus left that we should take steps to ask Mr. REES to furnish the information, and if he refused then the Director said he might well be prepared to advise the Home Secretary to issue the direction.

I next discussed with the Director the difficult question as to whether we could launch a prosecution against BURGESS, should he return to this country. I told the Director I had been thinking about this difficult problem and I was of opinion that we could charge BURGESS with an offence against Section 1, of communicating information to an enemy. I



- 3 -

outlined the case as I saw it, namely that we could prove that BURGESS was up to the time of his disappearance in the employ of the Foreign Office, and thus had access to official secrets. We could next prove the statement which was issued by MACLEAN and BURGESS in Moscow, and we could do this by calling the "Sunday Times" correspondent and the correspondent of REUTERS. I said the Director would remember in this statement that MACLEAN and BURGESS stated they had gone to Russia to assist the authorities there in the preservation of peace, as they knew from information they had acquired in the course of their official duties that the Western Powers were not working for peace.

I suggested we could then bring into play the provisions of Section 2 of the 1920 Act, and prove that BURGESS was in touch with a foreign agent, as defined in that Section, which brought into play the presumption that BURGESS had communicated information.

The Director said he agreed that it was possible to found a case in this way, and if BURGESS returned we could no doubt in the absence of any better evidence take proceedings on these lines.

I reported the result of my meeting with the Director to the D.G., D., D1 and D.1.A (Mr. Reed). The D.G. said that at his interview with Sir Frank Newsam that morning Sir Frank had stated that he would be prepared to advise the Home Secretary to issue directions under Section 6, provided the D.P.P. advised there was a legal case. The D.G. rang Sir Frank Newsam and told him that the Director had stated that in his view a case could not be made out for asking the Home Secretary to issue such a direction, as there was no evidence of any refusal by Goronwy REES to supply such information.

The D.G. told Sir Frank that we were taking steps to interview Mr. REES, to see whether he would give the information, and if he refused to do this the provisions of Section 6 could be brought into play. Sir Frank Newsam thought at one stage that the Police should do the interview, but agreed with the D.G. that the first interview could be carried out by Mr. Skardon. It was accordingly arranged that Mr. Skardon and Mr. Reed should see Mr. Goronwy REED on Monday, provided the article was published in "The People" on Sunday and was in the form submitted.

B. A. Hill

L.A.  
9.3.56.

B.A. Hill.



PA PF Rees

1550

I saw Sir Frank Newsam at the Home Office this morning when I told him about the series of articles about BURGESS which 'The People' are proposing to publish starting on Sunday next.

I explained that we had identified the author as one Goronway REES. REES had been one of the first persons to come forward with a voluntary statement which had been taken formally from him by a police officer soon after the disappearance of BURGESS and MACLEAN. It now appeared that he was proposing to make revelations going beyond the statement he had made to us and beyond any information he had supplied under close questioning. If the claims made in the advance notices of the series to be published in 'The People' were correct, then REES had a much more complete knowledge of BURGESS's espionage activities than he had ever admitted to us. In consequence I thought that, after the publication of the first article, we ought to demand this information from him formally and oblige him to give it under Section VI of the Official Secrets Act.

I understood that any action under Section VI of the O.S.A. required the Home Secretary's approval. In preparation for putting the case to the Home Secretary I had sent my Legal Adviser to see the Director of Public Prosecutions this morning.

After some discussion, Newsam gave it as his opinion that the application to the Home Secretary should be made by the Commissioner of Police upon the advice of the Director of Public Prosecutions. He asked that we should sort these formalities out in readiness for a conference with the Home Secretary early on Monday morning.

On his return from seeing the D.P.P. L.A. informed me that the D.P.P. had advised that, before bringing into operation Section VI of the O.S.A. we should attempt to persuade REES to give us his information voluntarily. I therefore rang Newsam and told him we should do this and should not therefore be making a bid for a conference with the Home Secretary early on Monday morning.

D.G.

                     D.G. White.

9.3.56.

Seen  
cm  
9.3



CONFIDENTIAL

153c

PF. 604588 Supp. "C"

ROOM 055,

8th March 1956.

My dear Admiral,

I am most grateful to you for obtaining the proof of the "People"s forthcoming article for me to see, and I am returning it herewith.

As this article does not offend any "D" Notice, there is no objection to publication.

Yours sincerely,

B.A. Hill.

Rear-Admiral G.P. Thomson, C.B., C.B.E.,  
Services, Press & Broadcasting Committee,  
Canning House,  
2 Belgrave Square,  
S.W. 1.

Enclosure

CONFIDENTIAL



153B

Having received the article proposed to be published by "The People" next Sunday from Admiral Thomson, I discussed the article with D and D.1.A (Mr. Reed), and we all agreed that though it was highly objectionable we could not stop "The People" publishing it, as it did not offend any of the provisions of 'D' Notice No.1, and it would be most unwise to ask "The People" to refrain from publication on grounds of co-operation only.

We subsequently saw the Director-General, who agreed with our views and authorised me to return the article to Admiral Thomson, informing him that we were not objection to publication.

It was agreed at this meeting that I should see the Director of Public Prosecutions next morning, and the D.G. said he would be seeing Sir Frank Newsam and would put him fully in the picture.

L.A.8.3.56.

B. A. Hill

B.A. Hill.

D.A./K.S.  
10/3



1539

ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

Pre-publication copy of article  
on BURGESS to be published on 11.3.56  
in "THE PEOPLE".

Rec'd 8.3.56

OPEN by sitting right hand edge.  
RE-USE with Economy Label.  
**ECONOMY**

CODE No. 27-22



# The People

(Proprietors: Odhams Press Ltd.)

TELEPHONES:  
TEMPLE BAR 5400  
(10 LINES)

TELEGRAMS:  
"PEOPLE, LONDON"

EDITORIAL OFFICES,  
92, LONG ACRE,  
LONDON, W.C.2

IN REPLYING, THE FOLLOWING  
REFERENCE MUST BE QUOTED:

(Addressed to Admiral Thomson)

With Stuart Campbell's compliments



# BURGESS

BURGESS-REJIG

WHEN Guy Burgess made his sensational reappearance with Donald Maclean in Moscow four weeks ago I knew that the time had come for me to tell my story.

Their pose in Moscow is that of innocent men who went over to Russia in the interests of "Anglo-Soviet understanding." Even the British Government minimises the extent of their treachery.

If no one speaks out now about the real damage the "missing diplomats"—especially Burgess—did to Britain, the public will be left with the dangerous illusion that all is well with our security services.

If no one tells how the master Soviet agent, Guy Burgess, was able to carry on his spying activities undetected for nearly 20 years, other traitors will find gigantic loopholes in our security network.

That is why I am speaking out today. As the closest friend Burgess had, I can disclose the full scope of his betrayal and of the incredibly cunning way he wormed out Britain's most precious secrets.

I have known Guy Burgess for 24 years. We were constantly in each other's homes. We shared anxieties and joys. We went to parties together. We had the same friends.

He is godfather to one of my children. He wrote to me frequently when we were separated. He has even sent me messages of friendship from Moscow.

He deceived me about only one thing—his treachery to Britain. And it is the way he duped me, his other friends, the Foreign Office and our Security chiefs that is the most astounding and terrifying part of my story.

Guy Burgess is the greatest traitor in our history. Yet for 20 years he played the part of a stalwart Briton.

He was a Communist of the deepest Red. Yet for a long time he convinced everybody that he had Nazi sympathies.

His Jekyll and Hyde career was a masterpiece of duplicity. That is the key to the Burgess scandal.

And there can be no better start to my story than to tell of one of the most fantastic incidents of his truly amazing double life.

In 1949 he set out for a holiday. It was supposed to be a quiet break from his duties at the Foreign Office, where he was Personal Secretary to Hector McNair, Minister of State and second-in-command to Ernest Bevin.

But his trip to North Africa in search of sunshine turned out to be one long alcoholic carouse.

He drank his way through France and Spain. He stopped off for special celebrations in Madrid and Gibraltar.

Then he capped the lot with a party in Tangier that made alcoholic—and diplomatic—history.

For he drank so much that he scandalised both his fellow guests and—when they got to hear of the party—his chiefs at the Foreign Office in London.

It was not his nauseating display of drunkenness that upset the Foreign Office. They knew Guy Burgess already as a champion alcoholic.

No—Whitehall's concern was over one appalling crime that he committed in his cups.

**HE BLABBED THE NAMES OF TWO TOP BRITISH SECRET SERVICE MEN IN SPAIN.**

The story broke over Burgess when he returned to London. His chiefs had received bitter protests from our Secret Service agents that Burgess had exposed them and gone a long way towards ruining their confidential work.

Yet he was charged—believe it or not—with mere "indiscretion."

This was two years before Burgess finally revealed himself as a Russian spy by his flight to Moscow.

All the same, you might have thought that the Foreign Office and our Security chiefs would have asked themselves what object did Burgess have, anyhow, in arranging his strange holiday journey.

What was his purpose in making contact—as I can now disclose he did—with our leading secret agents in Gibraltar and Tangier?

There can be no doubt now that Guy Burgess was, in fact, simply carrying out his treacherous work as a Russian spy.

He was attempting to gather information about our Secret Service network in Western Europe for transmission to Moscow.

His "indiscretion" in disclosing the names of our agents at the party in Tangier was sheer accident. He had drunk so much that he was incapable of controlling his tongue.

It was on this humdrum level that the Foreign Office handled the Tangier affair.

All the same, it should have meant the end of Burgess as a diplomat. Even the tolerant men who ruled the Foreign Office realised that a blabber like Guy Burgess was hardly the type of man to hold a post in one of our key Government departments.

And Burgess himself was terrified of being sacked. He told me so.

Indeed, I can claim the doubtful credit of having saved Guy Burgess from dismissal and co—without realising it—helped Britain's most dangerous spy to carry on his monstrous betrayals.

I came into the affair when Guy showed me the memorandum he had drawn up in reply to the charge of indiscretion. He asked me what I thought of it.

"It is too long, complicated and argumentative," I said. "Cut it down, write as little as possible about the charge itself—and say you reserve the right to ask for a board of inquiry."

This last point was, in my view, the most powerful. I knew a good deal about the Foreign Office bureaucrats.

They will do almost anything to avoid a formal board of inquiry, which takes up everybody's time, often involves bringing witnesses from long distances and produces endless paper wrangles.

Certainly the threat of a board of inquiry worked this time.

**GUY BURGESS, THE RUSSIAN SPY, WAS JUST GIVEN A "REPRIMAND."**

Now it is possible to find ex-

amples for the Foreign Office men who let Burgess off so lightly. They did not know, after all, that he was a Soviet agent.

But, they, or the Security officers who advise them, should have known. They had every reason to know.

For I must now inform the public of some breath-taking facts that no spokesman of the British Government has dared to disclose.

**Guy Burgess was on intimate terms with a number of the highest officers of our Secret Service.**

**He knew many of our leading agents all over the world.**

**HE CERTAINLY DISCLOSED TO HIS RUSSIAN MASTERS THEIR NAMES AND SECRET FUNCTIONS.**

He penetrated the secrets of our security system—without himself ever being suspected by the British spy and counter-spy chiefs who were his friends.

To understand how he achieved all this I must take you right back to the beginning when Guy Burgess was a Communist at Cambridge University. It was there that I first met him in 1932.

I was a Fellow of one of the most famous Oxford colleges. Guy was on a visit from Cambridge, where he was the most brilliant undergraduate of his time.

He was not only brilliant; he had compelling charm. He was the most fascinating conversationalist I had ever come across.

And, since I am going to be perfectly frank, I want to avow here and now that I was exceedingly fond of this strange and in many ways terrible man.

During our very first talk he persuaded me to join him on a holiday, to Russia. When the summer vacation came round I found that I was unable to go. Guy made the trip with a Communist friend.

It proved to be the decisive event in his life. It marked the beginning of his long and treacherous service in the Soviet cause.

For—the central feature of that stay in Moscow 24 years ago was a long, secret interview with Nikolai Bukharin, one of the most famous leaders of the Communist International.

A few years later, Bukharin was shot on Stalin's orders. But at that time he was still helping to direct Communist subversion outside Russia.

When he returned to London, Guy told me very little of what was said at that fateful interview. But its fruits were "long in ripening."

And strange fruits they were! For this convinced Communist, suddenly resigned from the Party and quarrelled violently with all his Red friends.

He declared that Communism was a reactionary movement, that the real progressives were on the extreme right and that his sympathies now lay with the German Nazis and the Italian Fascists.

To me he trotted out a confusing set of arguments to account for his astonishing change of front. I did not follow all of them, but I was at any rate convinced of his sincerity.

For on leaving Cambridge he did not associate with his old friends of the left. Instead, he sought out, first, Victor Rothschild, now Lord Rothschild, who had been a fellow undergraduate.

He asked for a job at the famous private bank of the Rothschild family. And, so, Guy told me, he advised the bank on political matters!

His next move took him much further to the right. He became private secretary to a Conservative M.P. who was notorious for his Nazi sympathies.

Together they travelled to Germany to see the Hitler régime in operation. Both came back full of enthusiasm.

By now I had become more than a little distressed at Guy's swing to Nazism. But during a conversation that I shall never forget he gave me remarkable evidence that the "swing" was not all it seemed.

Our talk took place in my London flat. I was then working as a journalist on the Conservative weekly "The Spectator." Guy turned the conversation to a long review I had written of a book on the distressed areas.

Guy praised the review in extravagant terms. I thought, it was pretty good, too, but hardly the masterpiece Guy seemed to believe it.

I asked him why he thought it so brilliant. He paused for a moment. Then, with a portentous note in his voice, he replied:

"I think it shows that you have the heart of the matter in you."

For a moment I was mystified. Then I guessed what he meant. My review had dealt with the problem of the distressed areas in a way that could have commanded the assent of Left Wingers.

Guy seemed to be hinting that at heart—and in spite of his open Nazi sympathies—his views were still left!

Before I could put this startling deduction to Guy, he gave me an even greater shock by saying very slowly and with the utmost gravity:—

**"I WANT TO TELL YOU THAT I AM A COMINTERN AGENT AND HAVE BEEN EVER SINCE I LEFT CAMBRIDGE."**

I was stunned. There was a long silence. Then I recovered myself sufficiently to say: "I don't believe you."

Why not?" said Guy. "Why else do you think I left the Communist Party and took that absurd job with that ridiculous M.P.?"

Do you think I really believed all that nonsense about the 'progressive' Nazis?"

"I invented all that. I had to. The Party told me to break off all connection with them, to quarrel with all my Communist friends. So I pretended to become a Fascist."

It was utterly incredible. But, even supposing it was all true, why was Guy telling his monstrous secret to me?

I asked him just that. His reply sent a tremor of dismay down my spine.

"Because I want you to work for me," he said.

**NEXT WEEK:** How Burgess named a famous writer as his fellow Soviet agent. His spying work during the war. How he set a blackmail hold on some of his highly placed friends.



242

152B

Private & ConfidentialSERVICES, PRESS & BROADCASTING COMMITTEE

Copy to Mr. B. A. Hill - for information.

Stuart Campbell, Esq.,  
"The People",  
92, Long Acre, W.C.2.

March 6th, 1956.

My dear Stuart Campbell,

I don't know whether Ainsworth is back from Australia but as you were good enough to help over the Putlitz story last November, I think I had better write to you personally about last Sunday's trailer "Now we can strip Burgess bare".

Would you let me have a look at these articles before they are published? I don't for one moment suggest that they bear on "identities, methods or activities" of our secret agents (D Notice No. 1), but you will remember that there was a point in the Putlitz story which you had not realised was troublesome and it is just possible that your Burgess stories might contain something of the same kind.

In any event, I hope both you and Ainsworth realise that my only object is to help "The People" and our own security. There will be no delay or attempt to ask you to delete criticism!

All good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

(Rear-Admiral G. P. Thomson, Retd.)



FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

Copy on PF 604, 558 Supp. C. Date 4 3-56

The People

# Now we can strip Burgess bare

GUY BURGESS, THE BRITISH DIPLO-  
MAT WHO FLED TO RUSSIA, IS THE  
GREATEST TRAITOR IN ALL BRITISH  
HISTORY.

When Parliament and the public know  
the truth about the secrets he wormed out  
of the Foreign Office—and the way he did  
it—there is bound to be an  
outcry

“The People” is going  
to reveal those facts.

We have induced his  
most intimate friend—a  
man in a high academic  
position—to tell all he  
knows about Burgess.

And what he tells is a  
revelation indeed!

Britain's  
greatest  
traitor  
exposed



IT was “The People” that first took the lid off the  
Burgess and Maclean case by printing Petrov's  
story of their duplicity.

Our new disclosures of how Guy Burgess spied  
against his country will cause an even greater  
sensation.

THE FIRST ARTICLE WILL APPEAR NEXT SUN-  
DAY AND SINCE THE WHOLE WORLD WILL WANT  
TO READ THESE ARTICLES IT IS ESSENTIAL TO  
ORDER YOUR COPY EARLY THIS WEEK.



**SECRET.**

151a

1246

H.O.W. No.....

File No. ✓ 604583.....A.2.A. for :G.P.O.:—~~Mr. G. A. L. L. L.~~ MAJOR A. E. DENMAN.

Please cancel the operation of the H.O.W. on the following :—

Name..... Gordonwy R. 1189.....Telephone No..... London 3197.....Date..... 21.12.55...... Signature..... St Ry.....

S. Form 18A/1000/rev. 7.55.

BPDIA  
21/12/56



Original Loose Minute Unfiled.

150a

Extract for FF 604583 REES

D-4. Please cancel.CTY 19.12.55.

I operate the under-mentioned letter and telephone checks and would like to make the following recommendations:-

.....

HOW 1246      Imposed 15.6.51      REES      Sonning 3197

This check, at present suspended indefinitely, has been operated from time to time since 1951 when occasion has demanded. If pressed, it could be cancelled.

R. T. Reed.

D.1.A.  
16.12.55.

B P D A  
21/56.



149a

Note for PF 604582 BLUNDEN  
PF 604583 REES  
PF 604589 FLANAGAN

The checks upon REES, BLUNDEN, and FLANAGAN were imposed in order to see their reaction to the debates in the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

I have today discussed these checks with D.1 and we agreed that they may be suspended. I have therefore completed the forms for these three checks to be suspended indefinitely.

I have already informed Mrs. Grist and the other A.2.A. people.

*R. T. Reed*  
R. T. Reed.

D.1.A.  
24.11.55.

BPD.A  
25/1/55.



**SECRET**

148 a

Major A. E. DENMAN, M.B.E.,  
 TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPT., (*through A.2.A.*)  
 G.P.O.

Box 500,  
 Parliament Street B.O.,  
 London, S.W.1.

Please \* Suspend  
 Re-impose

T.C. No.: 2577

\* { Temporarily  
 Indefinitely  
 Permanently (H.O.W. being retained) } from.....to.....  
 (if known)

Date: 24.11.55. Section: D.1.A. Signature: G. R. R.

Copy to A.2.A.

Copy to file No.: PF 604583

(\* Delete as necessary)

(Use this Form for both carbon copies).

S. Form 306 (rev. 10.52).

BPDIA  
25/11/55



PF.604583.

Copy in: PF.604529 - BURGESS.

PF.604584 - PHILBY.

Extract in: PF.728458 - MOLCHANOV.

3/27/10  
DIA/PAK h su rpa

147a

NOTE.

Reference D.D.G.'s loose minute of 24 October 1955.

I saw

this afternoon.

What he had to tell me was of very little interest as regards REES, BURGESS or PHILBY. It was as follows:

When [ ] succeeded REES as assistant editor in the Spectator office in 1946, the two worked together for a time. During this time REES advised him that he would find BURGESS - then in the Press Department of the Foreign Office - very useful as a contact in that department.

[ ] acted on this suggestion and saw a good deal of BURGESS during the time that he was with the Spectator. He found BURGESS efficient and helpful.

At one time (after [ ] had become editor) he wanted an assistant editor on the diplomatic side of the Spectator. REES suggested PHILBY's name in this connexion. [ ] saw PHILBY and put him on a short list for the job. He later heard from a press contact of his something about the association of BURGESS and PHILBY in Washington. He then had doubts about PHILBY and mentioned the matter to Commander COURTNEY, who simply commented that he "didn't like the sound of it".

[ ] had nothing more to say on the subject of BURGESS, PHILBY and REES.

Exr. in  
PF. 728458

He then went on to tell me that he had been seeing a good deal of the Russians during recent years, from the time when he joined the Spectator. He had met IPPOLITOV, PEUTIN and more recently [MOLCHANOV]. Through his friendship with the Finnish Press Attache he had also on one occasion had an invitation to meet BELOKVOSTIKOV but this had not materialised. He said that he was in fact dining with MOLCHANOV tonight.

On one occasion MOLCHANOV had expressed a particular interest in an article which [ ] had written for the Spectator, following a visit to Germany, in which he had expressed profound misgivings at German rearmament. This had been shortly before [ ] left the Spectator, and the Russian had asked him whether there had been any connexion between the two things. [ ] said that of course there was no such connexion. He later had been asked by MOLCHANOV if he would agree to writing an article on similar lines for publication in Russian papers, including a publication called "International Life". He had refused to agree to this.

I thanked [ ] for this information, and told him that this kind of approach on the part of Russian officials had been increasing during recent years, and that it was scarcely ever disinterested. We liked to know about these things, and I should be grateful if [ ] would let me know if anything more of interest should come out of his association with MOLCHANOV or other Russian officials. He agreed to do this and I gave him the Room 055 telephone number.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 OCTOBER 20 2020

J. C. Robertson.

D.1.  
26.10.55.8701A  
10/11/55



Original in [redacted]  
Copies for PF 604584 PHILBY  
PF 604583 REES ✓  
PF 604529 BURGESS

14 ba

D.1.

A few days ago I met Tony Courtney who told me he had been talking to [redacted]

At that time REES had told [redacted] that the Spectator had two very important contacts which he ought to cultivate. These were BURGESS, for all information from the Foreign Office, and PHILBY for information about the Middle East. Courtney took this latter to refer to Kim PHILBY, though I imagine it is possible that it might be his father.

2. [redacted] knew both REES and BURGESS personally, and told Courtney that he had some reason to believe that REES had acted as a Russian agent. I am afraid I was unable to get any details of this allegation.

3. I have spoken to Courtney who is just about to leave this country for Yugoslavia. He has however promised to ring [redacted] and tell him that he can expect a telephone call from James Robertson some time this week, and ask him to be co-operative. [redacted] is now working as an economist with the British Iron and Steel Federation.

Signed R. H. Hollis.

D.D.G.  
24.10.55.

P.S. Since writing the above, Courtney has rung to say that he has been in touch with [redacted] who will be delighted to receive a call from you. His telephone number is TRafalgar 8833.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958. MARCH 2022



PF.604,583

Morgan Goronwy REES

145a

Morgan Goronwy REES was born at Aberystwyth on 29 November 1909. He was educated at Aberystwyth County School and the High School for Boys Cardiff, and at New College Oxford where he took his degree in 1931. He was a Prize Fellow of All Souls College Oxford in 1931/32 and then became a leader writer for the Manchester Guardian working in Berlin and Vienna in 1932/33. From 1933 to 1935 he was working as a Research Fellow of All Souls but continued to write for the Manchester Guardian at the same time. From 1935 to 1937 he was Assistant Editor of the Spectator.

REES joined the Army in 1939 and served with the Intelligence Corps for most of the war. In 1943 he was an officer with G.C.H.Q. Home Forces and in 1944 was appointed as G.S.O.II to Secretariat H.Q. Control Commission for Germany. He left the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel in October 1945. From 1946 to 1952 he was in business and in 1953 was elected Principal of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, which position he still holds. From about 1947 until 1951 he was consulted on Russian matters as he is an expert in Russian philosophy, sociology etc. He has published one or two novels and reviews books for newspapers and periodicals. He is a writer and speaker of ability and has spoken on the B.B.C.

After the disappearance of MACLEAN and BURGESS, REES made a voluntary statement about his knowledge of BURGESS. His statement contained the following points:-

- 1) BURGESS was an active communist in about 1932/33.
- 2) In 1937 BURGESS told him that he was collecting confidential political information for an anti-Fascist organisation which he later said was a secret branch of the Comintern.
- 3) BURGESS told him that he had left the Communist Party "under direction" which direction he had obeyed because of the depth of his political convictions although to do so was against his personal inclinations.
- 4) In 1937 BURGESS asked REES to help him in his work for the Comintern.
- 5) BURGESS told REES that Anthony BLUNT (qv) was one of his sources of information.

In the course of the interview during which REES made his statement he said that BURGESS had a Russian contact whom he met in cafes in London to hand over material. At a later interview in July 1951 in reply to a question, REES said that when BURGESS told him that he handed over his information to a Russian he had the impression that several people were involved and that BURGESS himself did not know their identity. REES spoke of "the Russian from Paris" but when questioned he said that he imagined rather than knew that the contact(s) came from Paris.



- 2 -

145a

REES said that he severed his connections with the work he had been doing for BURGESS at the time of the Soviet German pact (August 1939). He added that he thought that BURGESS had given it up at the same time but could not give any sound reason for this belief.

In the course of the interview REES repeatedly said with much emphasis that BURGESS was the most complete Marxist that he had ever known and from the time of their first meeting in 1929 up to the time of his disappearance BURGESS' every thought and action was dictated by his Marxist philosophy.

REES has not been interviewed again but his case was investigated over a long period. No evidence of espionage (with the exception of his own admissions) has been found. There is nothing to suggest that he is a communist in the sense of belonging to the Communist Party but it is probable that he could with accuracy be described as a Marxist.

7.10.55.



143A

PF.604,583NOTE FOR FILE

I saw Mr. Philip Allen at the Home Office today to tell him about Goronwy REES in connection with the telephone intercept at 142a. As soon as I mentioned REES' name Allen said that he was representing Wales on the Home Office Committee on Homosexuality and Prostitution. This work was not of course vettable. I then gave Allen the outlines of REES' case, in particular mentioning his disclosure of the approach from Guy BURGESS in 1937. Allen was glad to have this information and would bear it in mind in case it should be contemplated at any time in the Home Office to employ REES in a capacity of security concern.

*G.R. Mitchell.*D.  
29.9.55.

G.R. Mitchell.

10/10/55  
29.9.55



COPY

for main Vol.  
Copy also on

Peach.

SECRET

142B

Name: RALEIGH

Rec: 26.9.55.

T.C.No.2577

Tel.No. Aberystwyth 7083

Date: 25.9.55.

Responsible Section: D.1.A.

Outgoing call RALEIGH to Henry YORK, KEN 4781.  
 RALEIGH said that he had been thinking over the  
 question of the YOUNG boy and asked if he would  
 write him a letter about him. He would then talk  
 to the Professor of history with a view of having  
 the boy there.  
 22.58 (24.9.55)

Outgoing call RALEIGH to 494 to Mr.COOKSON to say  
 it would not be possible to go along to view the  
 house this morning - some friends had turned up and  
 he could not get away. He told Mr.COOKSON, however,  
 that the registrar and the architect of the college  
 would probably view the house next week.  
 n.t.s.

Outgoing call RALEIGH for the number of St.Anthony's  
 College, Oxford. Oxford 57473.  
 RALEIGH booked a personal call to that number to  
 RALEIGH said to him-

- R. Look, I think I may have got a job for PEACH.  
 F. Oh how terrific.  
 R. I'll tell you what it is. I was talking to the  
 head of the features department of the B.B.C.  
 F. The speeches.  
 R. The features department of the B.B.C.  
 F. Oh yes.  
 R. And they are going to put on a long series which  
 will take a lot of time, which they call stories  
 of today.  
 F. Oh yes.  
 R. And it will be about things like the Montesi case.  
 F. Oh yes. That sounds all very.....  
 R. And the fall of PERON and that kind of thing, and  
 they say they want a first class investigator,  
 reporter and somebody who can handle materials.  
 F. I think that sounds absolutely up his street.  
 R. Well it does doesn't it?  
 F. Absolute brain wave.

THIS IS A COPY  
 ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
 IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
 3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
 ACT 1958 JANUARY 2022



- 2 -

142b

R. And they're very anxious to get hold of him.

F. Yes.

R. I told them what his past history - him - what KIM's past history had been.

F. Yes.

R. And he said, 'well that makes absolutely no difference to me at all'.

F. No, splendid.

R. 'And I don't have to ask anybody whether I employ him or not'.

F. Yes.

R. 'And I would like to send him abroad'.

F. That sounds absolutely splendid.

R. I think it sounds all right don't you?

F. Yes, I do.

R. Quite well paid, you see, quite a lot of money in it.

F. Yes.

R. Well look, I wonder if you could tell me how to get hold of him.

F. Yes, well, he spends his time between London and Crowborough, I can give you both addresses, or rather, the best London address is the Athenaeum, I can't say that he goes in every day.

R. No - I see.

F. I can give you the Crowborough address and tel. number.

R. I should think if I rang up Crowborough and asked him if he would ring me up.

F. Yes. Aileen would be there, you see. I think she's over her operation, I think she's back now.

R. Yes - could you get me that address.

F. I'm afraid I have no telephone number for it but it is The Leylands, Crowborough, Sussex. A telegram to there to him telling him to ring you up would -

R. To there - I think that would be the best thing to do.

F. I shall be seeing his sister in London tomorrow evening and I'll make her

R. Will you?

F. Yes.

R. Because the sooner - they're very anxious to get hold of him.

F. Exactly.



- 3 -

142b.

R. and he's not doing anything else at the moment is he?

F. No.

R. Right you are.

F. So far as I know.

R. Good.

\_\_\_\_\_ went on to tell him about the progress of Elisabeth KATKOV who had had an operation. RALEIGH hoped to see

\_\_\_\_\_ soon when he was next in Oxford. n.t.s.

Outgoing call RALEIGH to Directories for the number of PEACH, Crowborough, Sussex. He was given 3405.  
n.t.s.

Outgoing call RALEIGH to Crowborough 3405, to PEACH. (RALEIGH announced himself and asked AILEEN, who answered, whether she remembered him but she had apparently not heard him). PEACH took the call.

R. Hallo KIM.

P. Hallo RALEIGH, I haven't heard from you for a long time.

R. No, indeed.

P. I haven't even had an opportunity of congratulating you on your recent appointment.

R. Oh thank you very much. Well \_\_\_\_\_ was here the other day and said that you were looking for a job.

P. Oh yes, yes.

R. And I heard of something quite by chance the other day - on Friday actually - which I thought you might like.

P. That's extremely interesting.

R. I'll tell you what it is, it's this. The B.B.C. are going to have a long series of programmes which I think they're calling stories of today. They want to do things like the Montesi case.

P. Oh yes, yes.

R. And, you know the fall of PERON - anything of that kind which is still going on so to speak.

P. Yes, I see.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 JANUARY 2022.



- 4 -

142b.

R. And for that they want somebody who is a first class investigator and reporter.

P. I see.

R. And was good at handling material, you know.

P. I understand, yes.

R. Would that appeal to you at all?

P. When is this beginning, have you any idea.

R. Well they're starting now on collecting the material, you see.

P. Oh I understand, yes.

R. So it won't come on for sometime and they want someone who will go about and help collect the material and

P. I see well it could be awfully interesting.

R. It sounds to me just up your street.

P. Absolutely, yes. Well now -

R. Well I told them about you.

P. Yes.

R. I spoke to the head of the features department who is responsible for all this.

P. I see.

R. And he's frightfully keen to get you.

P. Who is he now.

R. His name is Lawrence GILLIAM (spelt), and, he asked me would I get hold of you and would you ring him up.

P. Yes, I see.

R. As soon as

P. Well now I presumably contact him at (the B.B.C.) -

R. At the B.B.C.

P. Headquarters, yes, and he is....

R. He is the head of the features department I think.

P. Well RALEIGH that was extremely kind of you.

PEACH then asked after him and where he was and RALEIGH told him - he only got back last night. PEACH repeated that it was extremely kind of him and that he would certainly contact them and he would let him know if anything materialised. They sent love to each other's families.

18.41.



S. Form 888

142A

**SECRET**

NAME: RALEIGH

T.C. No.: 2577

Tel. No.: Aberystwyth 7083

Date: 13.9.55.

Responsible Section: D.I.a.

14.9.55.

15 SEP 1955

Incoming call to MARGY from RALEIGH, from London, asking after the family. Chat ensued - of no interest. He did not speak of his activities apart from going to see TOM JONES in hospital. GIL MORGAN had taken him.

19.44.

14.9.55.

Outgoing call from Mrs. RALEIGH to JENKINS asking when RALEIGH was going to London during the next few weeks. JENKINS said he had meetings there next Thursday and the Thursday afterw. He had Home Office Committee meetings on the 4th and 5th October. Mrs. RALEIGH explained that he had to go to a dentist in London and JENKINS should write arranging appointments to coincide with his visits there. (The dentist, recommended by BILL FREWIN, was MONTAGUE MALLESON, 30 Thurlow Road. N.W.3. HAM 7363.)

12.31.

JW.

D/K  
27.9.55



S. Form 81/rev. 12.53

## EXTRACT

SECRET

(51685) WT63115 GP.577

Extract for File No.: PF 604583 Name: REES 141a

Original in File No.:\* PF 604583 Supp Vol.: 6 Serial: 276 Receipt Date: 5.9.55.

Original from: TC on REES Under Ref.: no. 2577 Dated: 3.9.55.

Extracted on: 12.9.55. by: BP Section: D4A

Outgoing call RALEIGH to Prof. BEECHAM, Aberystwyth 387. During the conversation BEECHAM remarked that he had been under the impression RALEIGH was to have been away for some time. RALEIGH mentioned that he should have gone again to Russia for a month for the B.B.C. who had asked him to go, "which would have been very nice, but then we had visa trouble and er- so all that fell through too". BEECHAM sympathised and said he had heard there was that snag about the visas but eventually they did come through. RALEIGH told him that the B.B.C. did want to do it later on. They had tried to do it all in a frightful hurry and it was a question of getting a visa in a fortnight which was really too difficult altogether .  
n.t.s.

L.E.



120A

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT  
UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF  
THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958



PF. 604,583.  
Loose Minute.

F.2. - Miss Dabell.

139a

We spoke the day before yesterday about a case in which I am interested where there seemed to be Communist influence in the B.B.C. by persons associated with the Talks Department, of whom we do not seem to have any record. The facts are these. We know from a reliable and delicate source that the B.B.C. recently had it in mind to invite the Principal of Aberystwyth University, Goronwy REES, to visit Russia and to travel there for a matter of a week or two. The Foreign Office have told us that the British Council were sponsoring the trip with the backing of the Foreign Office, and asked if we had any objection. We replied that we had no security objection, but reminded the Foreign Office of the fact that REES had been closely associated with Guy BURGESS. We subsequently heard that the project had been dropped.

From our reliable and delicate source, it would appear that the proposal for REES to visit Russia came from the B.B.C. Producer, Rene CUIFORTH. He has the co-operation of his wife, Marguerite CUIFORTH in this matter for she too appears to be employed in his department at the B.B.C. About a week ago Marguerite CUIFORTH consulted Mrs. REES about the people that REES would want to get in touch with before he travelled to Russia. Marguerite CUIFORTH suggested that REES should get in touch with Christopher HILL, PF. 51068 (who is already well known to REES), Gordon SCHAFER, PF. 200,983, who is a very well known Communist and who some months ago was under investigation by this section, and Paddy COSTELLO, a New Zealander who is also a Communist and has been under investigation by D.I.A.

Marguerite CUIFORTH did not know Gordon SCHAFER personally but his name had been given to her by a certain Malcolm McCULLOCH, of whom SCHAFER was said to be a friend.

There is no trace in our registry of Rene or Marguerite CUIFORTH. Neither have we any trace of Malcolm McCULLOCH on the bare particulars that I was able to provide that all of them were employed at the B.B.C. in the Talks Department. It is however apparent that a pretty strong Communist influence is at work when a speaker who is to visit Russia is invited by employees of the B.B.C. to discuss life in Russia and his trip with three roaring Communists.

You might like to make further enquiries about the CUIFORTHs and McCULLOCH.

D.I.A.  
1.9.55.

*R.T. Reed*  
R.T. Reed.

BPDIA  
2/9/55



138a

Note for PF 604583 REES

On enquiry at GPO, Mr. Harlow today I was informed that the letter check upon REES was cancelled in March 1954.

Mr. Harlow reminded me that there were some difficulties about operating this check at Aberystwyth but at the time that the check was in operation we had an arrangement whereby mail for REES emanating from the provinces, from London or from abroad was intercepted in London and then forwarded to Aberystwyth. This system is quite successful.

I told Mr. Harlow that for the moment I did not intend to apply again for this letter check.

*R. T. Reed.*  
R. T. Reed.

D1A  
1.9.55.



PA  
Reference... PF. 604583 - REES.

Loose Minute - RTR to see

29/8

137a

NOTE.

Street (Security Department)  
telephoned today to inform me that he  
had now learned that the B.B.C. are  
not proceeding with their plan to send  
REES to Russia.

  
J. C. Robertson.

D.1.  
25.8.55.

REGIMITE  
(1945)  
JC&SLtd  
Gp736/210  
Code 5-35-0

BPDint  
29/8/55



136B

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT  
UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF  
THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958



PF. 604583.

136a

NOTE.


I informed the Director General this morning about REES' proposed visit to Russia, and of the sense in which I proposed to write to the Foreign Office. He expressed his agreement with this.

I also telephoned Street and outlined the contents of the letter at 135a, which I told him would be with him shortly.

I added that I had discussed the position with my Director General, and that the latter took the view that Sir William Hayter might be well advised to find an excuse for not having REES to stay with him in Moscow, should REES propose himself as a guest. In this connection, Street told me that Hayter was not expected to return to Moscow before about 7 September, which in the circumstances would probably be convenient.

I also pointed out to Street that REES' visit would probably coincide with the publication of the PETROV material about BURGESS and MACLEAN. Taking into account REES' close friendship with BURGESS, the Ambassador might find it embarrassing to have REES in and around the Embassy in Moscow at this particular time. Street said that he appreciated that this was an additional reason for ensuring that Sir William Hayter was warned about REES' background.

D.1.  
24.8.55.

  
J. C. Robertson.



**TOP SECRET****PERSONAL**

135a

PF.604583/D.1.

24 August 1955.

Dear

Morgan Goronwy REES  
 Born 29 November 1909 at  
 Aberystwyth, Cardigan.

We wrote to you on 7 June 1954 about REES in our  
 letter L.305/Govt/42/B2B/ASM.

REES, who was at All Souls College Oxford from 1928  
 to 1932, was employed as Assistant Editor of the Spectator  
 from 1935. He joined the Army in 1939 and served with the  
 Intelligence Corps for most of the war. In 1943 he was an  
 officer with GCHQ Home Forces and in 1944 was appointed as  
 G.S.O.II to Secretariat, H.Q. Control Commission for Germany.  
 He left the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel in October 1945.  
 From 1946 to 1952 he was in business and in 1953 was elected  
 Principal of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.  
 From time to time, until 1954, he was consulted on  
 Russian matters as he is an expert in Russian philosophy,  
 sociology, etc. He has published one or two novels and  
 reviews books for newspapers and periodicals. He is a writer  
 and speaker of ability and has spoken on the B.B.C. In 1954  
 or 1955 he gave a series of talks for the B.B.C. on Germany.

We have now heard (in the first place from a  
 delicate source) that REES has been invited by the B.B.C. to  
 visit Russia for three weeks as a correspondent, with the  
 object of giving a series of talks about Russia on his return  
 to this country. We know from the same source that REES is  
 anxious to visit the British Embassy in Moscow and hopes to  
 find people there he may have known during the war and in his  
 capacity as consultant I understand he claims  
 acquaintanceship with Sir William Hayter.

We do not know the exact dates of the proposed  
 visit to Russia but according to our information REES hopes  
 to leave at the end of this week, on 27 August, and return  
 to the U.K. about 18 September 1955.

We have no evidence as to REES' present political  
 standpoint, and I do not think that there can be any formal  
 security objection to his proposed visit to Russia. On the  
 other hand BURGESS, when he approached him in 1937, must  
 clearly have regarded him as politically sympathetic, and  
 the two men remained close friends up to the time of BURGESS's  
 disappearance. In the circumstances, you will probably wish  
 to warn the Ambassador of the facts about REES, with especial  
 regard to the BURGESS connection.

I am sending a copy of this letter to

Yours

J. C. Robertson.

J. E. D. Street, Esq.,  
FOREIGN OFFICE.

Copy to:-



**SECRET**

132a

NAME: RALEIGH

T.C. No.: 2577

Tel. No.: Aberystwyth 7083

Date: 22.8.55.

Responsible Section: D.L.A.



23 AUG 1955

Outgoing call from MARGY to BILL FREWIN arranging to go to stay there, in Reading, tonight - RALEIGH was going to stay overnight in Oxford and would come on there tomorrow. 09.59.

Incoming call to RALEIGH from the Vice-Principal. Chat about College matters ensued. RALEIGH mentioned that he would be back from Russia on the 17th or 18th September. 10.35.

Incoming call to MARGY from MARGUERITE CUTTOMER. She had several names she had collected over the week-end and wanted to check whether they were friends who RALEIGH would have approached previously. There was no point in her writing to them also. She named CHRISTOPHER HILL, History Hon at Balliol. MARGY said he was an old friend - they knew him very well. MARGUERITE then named GORDON SCHLEIFER. MARGY asked who was he. All MARGUERITE said was that he was a friend of MALCOLM MCGUINCH, who had given her his name. MARGY did not know him. She told MARGUERITE about FLANAGAN's visit here and that RALEIGH had returned with him to Oxford to see KATEOV and another man who had been with him in Moscow. MARGUERITE did not know FLANAGAN or KATEOV. She then spoke of PABBY COSTELLO, who had been given the Chair of Russian History at Manchester University. He was the New Zealand Consul in Moscow and was now in Paris on his way back. MARGUERITE said they were still waiting to hear from the British Council regarding the visa. MARGY gave her the Reading 61680 number saying RALEIGH would be there tomorrow. He would go from there to London whenever required.

12.14.

JW.



**SECRET**

131a

NAME: RALEIGH

T.C. No.: 2577

Tel. No.: Aberystwyth 7083

Date: 20.8.55.

Responsible Section: D.I.a.

21.8.55.



22 AUG 1955

Outgoing call from MARGY to BILL FREWIN to tell him that it looked as if RALEIGH would be going to Russia - no difficulty was expected in obtaining the visa. Therefore, they would be coming to London on Tuesday. BILL said he had made an appointment for her for Thursday morning at 11 and his dinner party was the same evening. MARGY was not sure whether RALEIGH would be coming to that - he had to go to the Foreign Office and the B.B.C. etc. She ~~was~~ expected they would be with him about tea-time on Tuesday.

09.20.

21.8.55.

Outgoing, personal call to Dr. KATKOV at Oxford 6613 from RALEIGH, who confirmed that FLANAGAN was here with him. He said he was returning to Oxford tomorrow with him and invited KATKOV to dine with them. They would come to collect him at 7 p.m. KATKOV said MAX HAYWARD (ph) was coming about 8. RALEIGH said that was most interesting he would like to meet him because he was going to Moscow at the end of the week. It was all very exciting but he must talk to KATKOV and MAX HAYWARD, at great length, before he went. They would look forward to tomorrow.

22.35.

JW.



S. Form 938

**SECRET**

130a

NAME: RALEIGH

T.C. No.: 2577

Tel. No.: Aberystwyth 7083

Date: 18.8.55.

Responsible Section: D.I.a.

19.8.55.



20 AUG 1955

Nothing of interest to report.

18.8.55.

19.8.55.

/(money)

Incoming call to RALEIGH from MARGUERITE (CUTTORTH). She told him that they were going ahead through the British Council to get "visas and everything but she wondered if he had any connections of his own for introductions or whether he would like them to find some for him. RALEIGH said he had been hoping to stay with WILLIAM HAYTER for a bit but he had read that he had had an accident. MARGUERITE asked whether Major BARKER was still charge d'affaires there because she had known him in Prague. RALEIGH did not know but he could find out from the Foreign Office who was there. He could work up a few connections but the more she could find for him the better. He agreed that he would need quite a lot of money for internal travel. She would see what she could do and asked what else she could do while the official boys were doing things. Could she get on to Bush House. RALEIGH asked who were they. MARGUERITE said the Overseas and European service. He agreed that she could do that. He added that he had a friend coming to stay this week-end (FLANAGAN) who, he thought, would be able to help him. He repeated that the more contacts she could find and the more/he could be allowed for travel, the better. RENE then came to the telephone and asked what about this farm at Havant(?) - was it still for sale. RALEIGH was not sure but he could find out - also who was the man to get on to about it. RENE wanted to farm about 500 acres.

16.39.

RALEIGH made several local calls enquiring about a farm for RENE CUTTORTH. He reported to the latter on his findings.

JW.



129 A

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT  
UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF  
THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958



S. Form 838

original at serial 265 in supp vol.

**SECRET**

128A

NAME: RALEIGH

T.C. No.: 2577

Tel. No.: Aberystwyth 7083

Date: 16.8.55.  
(Part One.)

Responsible Section: D.I.a.



16 AUG 1955

Outgoing call from RALEIGH to LAN 8931 to MARGUERITE (CUCKFORTH).  
He said he had been looking at his diary and he could go about  
the 27th August - this was a Saturday but a few days either  
way would make no difference. MARGUERITE thanked him - she  
would tell "them" and "they" would try to get all the stuff  
through. She agreed that it might be a good idea if he sent  
her his passport to the B.B.C.

10.02.

JW.



S. Form 938

Original at 264 in SOPP vol.

127A

**SECRET**

NAME: RALEIGH

T.C. No.: 2577

Tel. No.: Aberystwyth 7083

Date: 15.8.55.

Responsible Section: D.I.A.



16 AUG 1955

Incoming call to RALEIGH from the Registrar to tell him there was nothing in his mail to worry him about. They chatted about University matters.

10.14.

Incoming call to RALEIGH from MARGUERITE CUCKFORTH (ph.) from the B.B.C. After initial pleasantries the conversation was as follows :-

- M. Now, I've been asked to find out how soon you could go to Russia because they are wondering whether they could still include these 3 talks in the Home Service before October the 27th.
- R. Before October the 27th.
- M. If you can't manage it, well, they'll do it later you see.
- R. Yes.
- M. But that means - you would need about 3 weeks to write them, wouldn't you?
- R. Yes I would.
- M. So that means about September the 27th - it would mean your having your 3 weeks in September. Is that too early for you?
- R. Yes, well could I think about it tonight and I'll let you know tomorrow.
- M. Yes. And if that isn't practicable, if you could let me know when during the Autumn you could go, or if you couldn't go in the Autumn but after Christmas - or what. At the moment they're holding spaces - they would like to get it in the programmes before October 27th if it's possible.
- R. Right, I'll look at my arrangements and see what can be done I'll ring you up tomorrow. Where shall I ring you?

At first, MARGUERITE suggested he should telephone her at LAN 4468 extension 582 but then decided he should ring her at home - she was working tonight until midnight - tomorrow morning at LAN 8931.

17.05.

JW.



126A

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT  
UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF  
THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958.



Original at serial 260 in Supp.Vol.

S. Form 338

**SECRET**

NAME: RALEIGH

T.C. No.: 2577

Tel. No.: Aberystwyth 7083

Date: 8.8.55

Responsible Section: D.I.a.



9 AUG 1955

Incoming call to MARGY from SUSY, her sister, to ask her whether the reception had been satisfactory. MARGY said that everything went off wonderfully, the Queen had asked many questions - she and RALEIGH had retired to the restroom with her. The Duke also had asked RALEIGH various questions. JENNY, their daughter had presented the bouquet magnificently. 18...

Outgoing call RALEIGH to Aberystwyth 7373 to an unidentified man to ask him whether the luncheon had been a success. They discussed the Royal visit and RALEIGH said that the Library reception had been a great success but he hoped there would not be a repetition of it for a very long time. RALEIGH suggested they went sailing one day and the man said he would gladly now that the boat was in order again. He asked - 'Are you going to be about?' RALEIGH answered - 'Yes, I shall be about for quite a time now'. The man replied - 'Oh so shall I, so we ----- week end in September'. RALEIGH said he would be delighted. n.t.s.

L.E.



S. Form 338

Copy for Main Volume - original at serial 258 in Supp.Vol.6

**SECRET**

NAME: RALEIGH

Tel. No.: Aberystwyth 7083

Responsible Section: D.I.a.

T.C. No.: 2577

Date: 4.8.55



Verbatim extract of MARGY's conversation with her Mother.

M. RALEIGH isn't going to Russia?  
(doesn't?)

MARGY He didn't want to go - he decided he wouldn't.  
He could have gone, he still could, but he thinks  
he'd rather be here with the kids.

M. Yes.

MARGY More sensible than racketing round.

M. Yes, well you never know do you really, how much  
time (these things) .....  
Do ..... while you can do them.

MARGY Yes.

M. You never know where he may be next year.

MARGY No - the weather is fabulous isn't it -  
Oh well - while this thing's sort of been in  
the offing - I must say we've had very little  
to do I've only - (RALEIGH) done about 4 hours  
work on the business since he came back so we've  
been out every day on a picnic.

N.T.S.

L.E.



PT. 604583  
REES.

125A

NOTE

I discussed \_\_\_\_\_ with D yesterday and today telephoned \_\_\_\_\_. I told him that we had received information about REES from \_\_\_\_\_ and I did not know if it was the same source as the one from which \_\_\_\_\_ had obtained his information. \_\_\_\_\_ said that he did not know their source and I therefore read to him the text of the telegram.

\_\_\_\_\_ asked if we had considered interviewing REES before he went to Russia. I said that that course had not been considered, but it did not appeal to me as I thought that REES was not very friendly towards the Security Service; furthermore, if we asked REES to come to London to warn him that he ought to tell us if he heard anything about BURGESS when he was in Russia he would reply that he would naturally do so. I expressed the belief that if REES heard anything about BURGESS or if he saw BURGESS while he was in Russia, he would almost certainly tell FOOTMAN who I thought would let us know.

I afterwards discussed this with D and we agreed that to be on the safe side we would resume the telephone check immediately. I did not tell \_\_\_\_\_ we were considering doing this.

D.I.A.  
4.8.55

*R.T. Reed*  
R.T. Reed.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 OCTOBER 2020



122 AB

122 B

123A

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT  
UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF  
THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958



✓ Copy PF.604582 (BLUNDEN)  
PF.604583 (REES)

122A

NOTE

Mr. Saffery telephoned on the 19 July to report that the checks upon BLUNDEN and upon REES were ready to operate as soon as we wanted them to come on. I said that we had no news of the information about PETROV being made public but that as soon as we were told of this publicity I would ask him to impose the checks.

D.I.A.  
22.7.55

N R.T. Reed.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 OCTOBER 2020



PF.604582 (BLUNDEN)  
 ✓ PF.604583 (REES)  
 PF.604589 (FLANAGAN)  
 PF.604584 (PEACH)

121A

NOTE

In view of the information shortly to be made public by PETROV about the cases of BURGESS and MACLEAN it was agreed today with D that the telephone checks upon BLUNDEN and REES should be re-imposed just before the publicity occurs. The PEACH check is already in operation and it is not possible to put a telephone check on FLANAGAN.

I therefore asked Mr. Saffery this afternoon to stand by to re-impose the telephone checks upon:

(a)	Line	2135	-	WEL	1388	}	BLUNDEN.
	"	2136	-	"	1389		
	"	2138	-	"	9841		
	"	2147	-	"	4841		

(b) Line 2577 - ABERYSTWYTH 7803 - REES,  
 and warned Mrs. Grist accordingly.

D.1.A  
 16.7.55.

*R.T. Reed.*  
 R.T. Reed.



**SECRET**

120a

G. F. SAFFERY, ESQ.,  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPT.,  
G.P.O.

Box 500,  
Parliament Street B.O.,  
London, S.W.1.

Please \* Suspend  
~~Re-impose~~

T.C. No.: 2577.

\* { ~~Temporarily~~  
Indefinitely  
~~Permanently (H.O.W. being retained)~~ }

from to-day to.....  
(if known)

Date 15 March 1954.

Section D.I.A.

Signature E. McEarnot.

Copy to B.4.B. PF. 604,583.  
Copy to file No.:

ABER 7083

(\* Delete as necessary)

(Use this Form for both carbon copies).

S. Form 306 (rev. 10.52).

Jc/DIA  
15/3/54



CONFIDENTIAL

I.B. 52629

119<sup>a</sup>

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. L. Rees for Ples Longlais Aberystwyth marked M. L. Rees.	London SW 1. 6.15 pm	4th Mch	Acknowledgment of Cash on a/c
U.C.W. Aberystwyth	Bangor 11.30 am	4th Mch	apology for absence

(Place) ABERYSTWYTH  
Cardiganshire  
I.B. 19.S.

*[Signature]*  
for Head Postmaster.

5 March 1954  
J.E/DIA  
1243/57

6 MAR 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

1B. 52629

1180

MAR 1954

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. L. Rees K.O. Plas Penllyn Aberystwyth	London SW1 6.15pm	3 Mch	Re Overdrawn a/c
Ditto.	Oxford H. 4.5pm	3 Mch	Re Investment loans

(Place) ABERYSTWYTH,

I.B. 19.S.

Cardigan shire.

H. Mch

for Head Postmaster.

.....1954



LB 52629

GPO

SS 281

*city of letters*  
 Posted London SW1 6.15h 3 March.  
 Addressed M. L. Hoes, Esq., Plas Benllys, Aberystwyth.

WJH

From Arthur M Dennis.

40, Berkeley Square,  
 W. 1. 3.3.54.

My dear Goronwy,

I went to Oxford yesterday and saw Isaiah Berlin & I realised that seemed to be very concerned, and since it was a matter in which you were interested I felt that it should have that high priority which I always accord to your matters (dear boy).

Berlin is, I am afraid, dealing with the matter as though it represented some of the more obscure problems of an international conference but if he can let me have the balance sheet and the ordinary information about the business, I think there is a chance of doing a deal. He obviously wants the money to provide for his mother, but I assured him that anything I could do I would.

M. Glenys and I went for lunch to the Bear at Woodstock afterwards and about half an hour later he walked in with a rangy blonde and proceeded to give her lunch holding her spellbound.

I have spoken to Louis and he is doing a draft letter. If you have any ideas about it too, will you let me have them, and we can get some of the signatories to the original letter to append their signatures and send it off to America.

Hope all is well.

My love to you all.

As ever,

(?)



CONFIDENTIAL

1B. 52629.

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

6 MAR 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Principal M. G. Rees U.C.W. Aberystwyth	Crucklewod 7.15 pm	1 Mch	Re Property. (Cannon Harst, and Gogerddan)
M. G. Rees Esq Plas Penlaur Aberystwyth	London Geleg	?	Re Gogerddan Estate
Principal M. G. Rees Esq U.C.W. Aberystwyth	Cardiff 5.0 pm	2 Mch	Re Welsh Economic Centre
M. G. Rees Esq Plas Penlaur Aberystwyth	London W.1	2 Mch	- Copied - attached.

(Place).....

ABERYSTWYTH  
CardiganshireW. J. Harris  
for Head Postmaster.

3 March, 1954

I.B. 19.S.



1.B.52629

Copy

Navel and Military Club  
94, Piccadilly, W.I.

Dear Goronwy,

A line to say Bill had a  
word with Patrick (as I did .....)  
P. V. interested; he wants a day or two to  
think it over and consult one or two friends;  
but so far he certainly isn't saying no, and  
it has been a great tonic to morale!

Yrs (O)

Posted London W.I. 21<sup>st</sup> Ch

Addressed M. L. H. Esq., Plas Penllyn,  
Aberystwyth.

M. J. Harris for  
H. P. W.  
Aberystwyth  
Cardigan'saire



CONFIDENTIAL

*Ref 43. PA* *1B. 52629* *116<sup>a</sup>*  
 The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
 (Special Section).

MAR 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
 It was not considered necessary to photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
<i>Printed Gwenwyn Rees Plas Penlairs Aberystwyth</i>	<i>Reading 1.45 pm</i>	<i>27 Feb.</i>	<i>From Chatto - Winers re Broadcast</i>
<i>Ditto</i>	<i>London W.1. 6.15 pm</i>	<i>1 Mch</i>	<i>Re Dylan Thomas Fund</i>
<i>Printed M G Rees &amp; A U.C.W. Aberystwyth</i>	<i>London S.W.1 7.15 pm</i>	<i>1 Mch</i>	<i>Re TRUTH</i>

(Place) *ABERYSTWYTH,*  
*Cardiganshire*  
 I.B. 19.S.

*Harris*  
 for Head Postmaster.

*2 March* 1954



**SECRET**

G. F. SAFFERY, ESQ.,  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPT.,  
G.P.O.

Box 500,  
Parliament Street B.O.,  
London, S.W.1.

115a

Please \* Suspend  
Re-impose

T.C. No.: 2577.

\* { Temporarily  
~~Indefinitely~~  
Permanently (H.O.W. being retained) }

from to-day to.....  
(if known)

Date 3 March 1954.

Section D.I.A.

Signature E. McEarnet.

Copy to B.4.B. PP. 604, 583.  
Copy to file No.:

(\* Delete as necessary)

(Use this Form for both carbon copies).

S. Form 306 (rev. 10.52).

Sc/DIA  
3/3/54.



**SECRET.**

H.O.W. No. 11716. 114a

File No. PF. 604,583.

**B.4.E.** for :

G.P.O.:—MR. G. A. HARLOW.

Please cancel the operation of the H.O.W. on the following :—

Name REES, Morgan Goronwy.

Address Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire. &  
c/o The University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

Date 3.3.1954. Signature

E. McBarnet.

S. Form 18/2000/rev. 4.50.



CONFIDENTIAL

1.B. 52629

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

2 MAR 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
 It was ~~not~~ considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Principal Gwynedd U.C.W. Aberystwyth	Cardiff 1. 45 pm	27 Feb.	Compliment to Students on their conduct during Inter-Collegiate week.
Ditto	ditto	do.	Music Club Programme
Ditto	Loughborough 5. 15	27 Feb.	Re References for Students.

(Place) ABERYSTWYTH,

I.B. 19.S.

Cardiganshire.

*N. J. Harris*  
 for Head Postmaster.

1 March 1954



G P O  
SS 281*copy of a letter.*1 B. 52629*Posted: London W. 1. 9.45 am. 26 Feb.**Addressed: ~~Miss~~ M. G. Keeling Plas Penlais  
Aberystwyth  
Glad.*

Arthur G. Dennis, Ll. M.

40, Berkeley Square

London, W. 1.

25th February, 1954.

My Dear Gonny,

Thank you for your letter of the 12th February. I will do everything I can to assist Isaiah Berlin. Let me have the thing quickly and, in addition, what is Berlin's full designation. Is it not Sir Isaiah Berlin and are there not one or two letters after it?

I will telephone you over the week-end anyway, but I am dictating this an hour after coming off the blessed plans.

I made great friends with Philip Wittenberg, who is acting for the American Dylan Thomas Fund. He has collected over 20,000 dollars and has agreed that in principle we shall join together. We have to compose a letter next week, but I can barely think at the moment. If you have a moment could you let me have a draft of any suggestions as to a letter which could be sent to the Americans. I have many things to tell you about the whole set-up.

I met Louis Blomfield, Cole Porter, Salvador Dali and Uncle Tom Cobley and all, so you can imagine that there are some very interesting stories. Wittenberg has acted for the Avant Garde in America for years past.

Yours ever,

(?) (Illig.)



CONFIDENTIAL

RUB

113 52629

112<sup>a</sup>

1 MAR 1954

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Mr. Rees Key U.C.W. Aberystwyth	Crickwood 945am	26 Feb.	From Done Hunter Co Re Gogeraden Estate Aberystwyth.

(Place).....

ABERYSTWYTH,  
Cardiganshire

I.B. 19.S.

for Head Postmaster.

27 February 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

788      I.B. 52629      111a

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was ~~not~~ considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Mrs. Rees, Esq., Plas Penllyn, Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire	Oxford 10.0 pm	24 Feb	General Meeting - All Souls College

27 FEB 1954

(Place).....ABERYSTWYTH,.....

I.B. 19.S.

Cardiganshire.

H. J. Harris  
for Head Postmaster.

26 February,.....195 4



CONFIDENTIAL

1-B. 52629  
110a

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

26 FEB 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Principal General Post Office A.C.W. Aberystwyth	Cardiff 6 pm	24 Feb	Accepting invitation to dinner
Do.	Cardiff 6 pm	24 Feb	ditto.
Do	Swansea 8.45 pm	24 Feb	ditto.

(Place).....ABERYSTWYTH,.....

I.B. 19.S.

Cardiganshire.

*[Signature]*  
for Head Postmaster.

.....25 February.....1954



CONFIDENTIAL

PA 76, I.B. 52629

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

109a

25 FEB 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. L. Rees, Esq Ples Penglais Aberystwyth Cardiganshire	London W. W.	22 Feb.	Entrance fee - Garrick Club
Ditto	Oxford H. 45h	22 Feb	Order in Council - All Souls College
Principal M. L. Rees M.A. U.C.W. Aberystwyth Cardiganshire	London SW 1. 7.15 pm	23 Feb	Re candidature of Dr John Holloway for Aberdeen West
Ditto	Cricklewood 5.0 pm	23 Feb	Dore Hunter - Co Valuer Re Loan

(Place).....

I.B. 19.S.

for Head Postmaster.

24 February 1954



G P O  
SS 281

copy of a letter addressed to Principal Goronwy Iles  
 Posted at Hampstead 8.45h 22.2.54  
 u.c. w.  
 Aberystwyth

All Souls College,  
 Oxford.

24 FEB 1954

19th February, 1954.

108<sup>a</sup>

Dear Goronwy,

I think I do need the services of your Mr Dennis rather badly - the two alternative suggestions made to me by my "managers" seem to me equally horrible and disastrous and I feel very much at their mercy until rescued by some superior force. So when he comes back could you put him in touch with me (almost) immediately? I would value urgency in the matter greatly and should be in general, as you can imagine, most grateful to you - if, that is, you really think that your friend would devote himself to my interests on account of his love for you.

Yours affectionately

Isiych (?)

Isaiah BERLIN

P.S.

Stuart (or stunt) had cold feet nbt..... I prefer to warn them.

~~Ex~~ I may get through without such mis -  
 and Herbert that offer his bunker - cousin -  
 but I shd feel happier - will - if I cd consult  
 with you first before some awful decision.

Pass  
 writing

Jc/OIA  
 25/2/54



G P O  
SS 281Aberystwyth,  
Cardiganshire,  
23rd February, 1954.The Officer in Charge,  
(Special Section),  
I. B.,

24 FEB

The attached letter "A" is a copy of a letter posted in London, 2½ paid, on 22nd Feb, bearing "B. B. C" on the outside of the envelope. The letter contained an enclosure which has been copied - see "B". The handwriting of the enclosure was very poor and the time available for copying was only five minutes or so. In the circumstances the typing was done as quickly as possible and ~~and~~ attention has been drawn to the illegible ~~words~~ words.

C. received later in the day. *HP*  
*Harris*  
for HPmr.



G P O  
SS 281

Posted in London 2½ paid, 22.2.54. A.  
Addressee: Goronwy Rees, R. y Plas Bryglais Aberystwyth

copy

B. B. C.

...W.L.

Feb 22nd

Dear Goronwy,

Thank you very much for your letter.

I enclose one I've just had from Dennis, whom I'll telephone this Thursday and decide among other things which signatories to approach.

I should like to have seen Himself with Dali (?).

In haste

In

Love to you both.

Louis. McNEICE



G P O  
SS 281*Copy of Envelope in attached letter "A."**B.*

The St Regis

New York.

Dali Said

*(Poor writing)*

'I am not selling' L'est dommage. MY whiskey are my anternal. They clear my confusion.

Dear Lousis

(I understand from Rees that henceforth we can eschew more formal modes of address ' ). I saw Wittenberg a most agreeable bloke with some of the less engaging characteristics of the N.Y. attorney but the nicer ones preponderate. In the result<sup>?</sup> he had been approached rather violently (a) by Hyamis (?) (b) by the Welsh ~~Solicitors~~ solicitors. He was against (a) and (b) and is for us. Having <sup>illegible</sup> ~~fill~~ (7) time today I had him to lunch and got involved with salvadore Dali - too fantastic. The net is <sup>(illegible)</sup> ~~mar~~ some of ~~xxxx~~ <sup>the?</sup> me signatories of our letter must write to me Dylan New York Committee suggesting ~~mar~~ me funds be aggregated Pan Am ~~god~~ and various other factors contributing I hope to be in London next Thursday when I suggest bash<sup>?</sup> upon my conversations sealed in dry martinis when with Wittenberg

I wish do a draft letter for some of you to sign.

Wittenberg has 20,000 dollars and is KEEN ON culture. verb sap.

The eminence Grise of the set up seems to be the possible literary agent who is UP TO NO GOOD says W

How can we fix ~~mar~~ guy. I really think that a hard eye and a



few well chosen words might be a propos but I know him not  
~~Will~~ you Will you be so good as to ring me at  
GRO 8585 about noon on the 25th

I'm going to Greenwich village with W tonight in an endeavour  
to seal the pact. R Todd they all regard with an obviously  
justified terror so I've left that alone.

I cabled <sup>Rees</sup> ~~Rees~~ the fundamentals but do let him know the whole thing  
is most amusing Willenberg lectures at Columbia on 'Property in  
Literature' a fascinating concept.

Sincerely

Arthur.

DENNIS



CONFIDENTIAL

1B. 52629

106<sup>a</sup>The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to photograph them.

24 FEB 1954

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Principal G. Rees u c w Aberystwyth	Cardiff 1.45 pm	22 Feb	Re College Dinnes
Ditto	Manchester 7.30 pm	22 Feb	Re Jackson Boilers
<del>Ditto</del> Principal G. Rees Ples Penclais Aberystwyth Principal Rees	Oxford 6.15 pm	22 Feb	Re All Souls Report
u c w Aberystwyth	Illegible	Illeg	Review of 'TRUTH'
Ditto	Can official	22 Feb	Information about Thomas Family.

(Place) ABERYSTWYTH,

I.B. 19.S.

CardiganshireM. J. Harris  
for Head Postmaster.23 February 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

1B 52629

105<sup>a</sup>

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

23 FEB 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. L. Gies, Esq Plao Penglin, Aberystwyth	Reading	20 Feb	Footwear etc
Prinrichel Gies, Esq W. C. O. Aberystwyth	Horsham	20 Feb.	Advertisement Re holiday accommodation
Prinrichel Gies, Esq University College, Aberystwyth	Elleg	.	Re Legion Magazine.

(Place) ABERYSTWYTH,

Cardiganshire

I.B. 19.S.

H. J. Harris  
for Head Postmaster.

22 February, 1954



Original in PF.604,583 Supp.Vol.6.

S. Form 338

**SECRET**104<sup>a</sup>

NAME: RALEIGH

T.C. No.: 2577

Tel. No.: Aberystwyth 7083

Date : 21.2.54  
22.2.54

Responsible Section: D.I.A.



23 FEB 1954

21.2.54  
Outgoing call MARGY to BILL (FREWEN) Reading 83210. MARGY thought she would be in Reading next week end and hoped to see him. She agreed to send him a wire as soon as it was definite. RALEIGH was going to be in Oxford. She mentioned that he was giving up being bursar probably in July having found a suitable successor. They chatted at length. BILL spoke of the house he had bought. He was now trying to get a housekeeper. MARGY told him of last night's reception when they entertained Sir David Maxwell Fyfe. She mentioned that 12.01 RALEIGH was at GREGONOK (ph).

Incoming call from RALEIGH to MARGY who agreed to go over and would spend the evening there. They were to return together.  
13.01

22.2.54

Outgoing call JENNY to 7523 to Auntie KITTY. MARGY had asked her to ring so as to find out where Aunt JANE lived. It appears to be a in a house called Roslyn in Bath Street. Chatter followed.  
09.26

Outgoing call IRENE to GERDA. Lengthy chatter. IRENE told her that they (RALEIGHs) were going away on Friday. GERDAY may decide to come over on Saturday.  
18.18

Outgoing call JENNY to CHARD 3187 to her grandmother, Mrs MORRIS. JENNY told her that they might be going to school at Hoyton. MARGY took over the call after they had chatted for a while. She discussed the school question with her mother. MARGY thought it unlikely that they would be able to afford the fees unless one of the children got a scholarship. Her mother hoped she might perhaps help her towards getting their clothes.  
19.24



CONFIDENTIAL

VH 1B.52629

1030

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was ~~not~~ considered necessary to photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. G. Rees, Esq., Plas Penlaur, Aberystwyth	Oxford H. H. S. M.	19 Feb	Provision of typing assistance to research students.
M. G. Rees, Esq. Plas Penlaur, Aberystwyth	Illegible	2	Statement of college stipends

(Place) ABERYSTWYTH

I.B. 19.S.

Cardigan shire

22 FEB 1954

for Head Postmaster.

20 February 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

D12      I.B. 52629      102<sup>a</sup>

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. L. Rees Esq Plas Penlais Aberystwyth Cardiganshire	London 7.15 pm Reverted from Oxford 5.15 pm	17 Feb 18 Feb	Garrick Club - Subscription
Ditto	Oxford 4.45 pm	18 Feb	Finding a house at Oxford for Richard Pares.
M. L. Rees Esq M.A. U. C. W. Aberystwyth	Cricklewood 7.15 pm	18 Feb	Manton Harcourt Parsonage House - Heating Apparatus
Goronwy Rees Esq M.A. (Oxon)			
U. C. W. Aberystwyth Cardiganshire	London S.W.1 6.15 pm	18 Feb	Dylan Thomas Memorial Fund
M. L. Rees Esq Plas Penlais Aberystwyth	Reading 8.15 pm	18 Feb	Request for School Fees

(Place) ABERYSTWYTHCardiganshire

I.B. 19.S.

20 FEB 1954

J. Harris  
for Head Postmaster.19 February 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

PA

1-B. 52629

10/1<sup>a</sup>

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Mr. Rees Esq. Principal Uxw. Aberystwyth	Brickwood 9.45 am.	17 Feb	Designation of Land. Cumnor Hurst (Property of all Souls).

(Place).....

ABERYSTWYTH,

Cardiganshire

I.B. 19.S.

H. J. Harris  
for Head Postmaster.

18 February 1954

19 FEB 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

1.B.52629.

1000

18 FEB 1954

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Mrs. Rees King P. Las Penlaurie Aberystwyth.	Oxford 7.15 pm	16 Feb	All Sons College Bursary. Contemplated property improvements
Gwenwyn Rees King Principal U.C.W. Aberystwyth (Confidential)	London SW1.	16 Feb	Re Reference.
G. Rees King. Principal University College Aberystwyth.	South Kensington 7.15 pm	16 Feb	Re "ADAM" International Review. Dylan Thomas Fund.

(Place).....ABERYSTWYTH,.....

I.B. 19.S.

Cardiganshire.

*W. J. Harris*  
for Head Postmaster.

17 February 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

17 FEB 1954

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to <sup>Coke</sup>photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Dr. Gronwyn Rees University College. Aberystwyth	Machynlleth 6.30pm. 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb 54	15.2.54	From Margaret Mansford. Seeking employment

(Place).....ABERYSTWYTH.....

I.B. 19.S.

Cardiganshire

J. O. Jones.  
for Head Postmaster.

16 February 1954  
W. J. Harris Absent.



CONFIDENTIAL

1.B. 52629

980

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

17 FEB 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Goronwy Rees Key Plas Penlais Abergystwyth	Llan W I 6-15 pm	12 Feb	Envelope (sealed) addressed Goronwy Rees Key 9-13 George Street Manchester Square W1 containing a cheque for the "Observer" for contribution to the paper.
Principal Goronwy Rees MA Plas Penlais Abergystwyth	Cardiff 10 am	14 Feb	Details of Insurances for engines.

(Place).....

I.B. 19.S.

for Head Postmaster.

15 February 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

I.B. 52629

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

15 FEB 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Principal <sup>and Mrs</sup> M. G. Jones MA Plas Penlhaize Aberystwyth.	Lyzol. B.	12 Feb	Re prospects of a living at Cobberley, Cowley and Calesbourne
Principal M. G. Jones Plas Penlhaize Aberystwyth	London W.1. 8.5 pm	5 Feb	From Bon Vivier a/c for £4/3/0

(Place).....ABERYSTWYTH,  
Cardiganshire.

I.B. 19.S.

for Head Postmaster.

13 February 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

PA

1-B. 52629.

96<sup>a</sup>

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

13 FEB 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was ~~not~~ considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Personal and Confidential M. Goronwyddes Esq Principal UCU Aberystwyth	Cardiff 6 pm	11 Feb	Meeting of Adult Education Committee.

(Place).....ABERYSTWYTH,  
Cardiganshire  
 I.B. 19.S.

*Harris*  
 for Head Postmaster.  
 .....12 February.....1954



CONFIDENTIAL

Sm 12 1B 52629.

95<sup>a</sup>

12 FEB 1954

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> ~~photograph~~ them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Principal Gwynn Rees Plys Penllyn Aberystwyth	Cardiff 6.0 am	10 Feb	Inspection and Insurance of heating apparatus
Ditto	Oxford 3.15 pm	10 Feb	Dinner at All Souls
Principal Rees W. C. W. Aberystwyth	London 6.15 pm	10 Feb	Putnam and Co., Re Emendations to book preface

(Place).....

ABERYSTWYTH,  
Cardiganshire

I.B. 19.S.

W. J. Harris  
for Head Postmaster.

11 February, 1954



S. Form 81/rev. 12.53.

## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,583. Name: REES.

Original in File No.: PF. 604,589 Vol: 4 Serial: 162a Receipt Date: 11.2.54.

Original from: I/C letter to FOOTMAN. Under Ref.: - Dated: 9.2.54.

Extracted on: 13.2.54. by: JC Section: D.1.A.

Copy of I/C letter from M.G. REES to David FOOTMAN dated 9.2.54.

University College of Wales,  
ABERYSTWYTH.

9th February 1954.

My dear David,

Thank you very much for the Central Asia Review. I think the best thing I can do is to give a copy to Tom Jones who lives here and is a Director of The Observer and takes interest in it. I am sure he will help. I will also circulate it to the Departments of Geography and of International Politics who I am sure will be interested.

I ought to have written to you some time ago to say that Mrs. Bassett wrote to me to say that Guy's Christmas message from Moscow contained a message for you and for me which she would like to show you.

I shall be in Oxford this week-end arriving on Friday. Could you come to dinner in College on Saturday night? I hope you can.

Yours ever,

David Footman, Esq.,  
St. Anthony's College,  
Oxford.

Goronwy (signed)

\* If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file owner



CONFIDENTIAL

m 12/2

I.B. 52629

11 FEB 1954

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

930

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. L. Rees, Esq. Plas Pengelodis, Aberystwyth	Lan sw. 6.15 pm	9 Feb	Receipt and Cheque Book
G. M. Rees, Esq. Principal M. C. W. Aberystwyth	Leeds 6.15 pm	9 Feb	College Dinner - Leeds
Ditto	1.30 pm	9 Feb.	Re paragraph for a book
Ditto	London	9 Feb	Re. selection of Warden

(Place).....ABERYSTWYTH,Cardiganshire.

I.B. 19.S.

H. J. Harris  
for Head Postmaster.

10 February, 1954

H. J. Harris  
18/2



PA Rec.

L.B. 52629

my friend  
Halley  
Aberystwyth

Addressed. Goronwy Rees Esq. Plas Penllyn Aberystwyth, Wales.  
Origin Nottingham 7.15 PM 8 Feb.

35, Holland Park. W.11.

70 FEB 1954

8 Feb.

Secret x - ref to go  
✓ SC on Halley: 10/2

My dear Goronwy,

Many thanks for yours : it was nice to see that minute script again. God knows but I envy you your adaptability.

About myself. Age 36 and physically fit (despite the firm) My Norwegian could be fluent after say 3 months concentrated effort on the spot. French not so hot but at least I can read it without too much trouble. 1936 - 39 I spent at the Bradford School of Technology reading engineering in its application to the iron and steel trades, but the war spoiled all that. Simultaneously I was working in the shops of an ironfoundry. I have no other paper qualification.

Not very impressive I fear but I know I can do practically anything in an executive capacity provided high technical qualifications are unnecessary. I could be happy handling personnel I think I could do the jobs very well. I am quite happy to work anywhere, either in U.K. or abroad, in fact I should prefer to be abroad.

I know Norway and its people backwards and have a lot of contacts in the business world there - particularly in the timber/paper pulp and textile trades. For reasons you will appreciate I do not want to have to approach anyone over there directly at this stage.

As I see it, I've got to break the ice somewhere and then convince people that my qualities can be of value. So far as salary is concerned I was getting £1350 from the firm but if the worst comes to the worst I'll take under £1000 provided prospects are good.

Frankly I'm nearly bursting with a desire to get going somewhere and I can assure you that anyone who employs me won't regret it.

Warm regards to you and your lady. The "iceberg floating down the river" asks me to reciprocate your good wishes !

Bless you for taking interest,

Yrs ever,

Jim (?).

GPO

SS 281

Secret x Ref.  
in 39519440

HALEY, L.T.D. P.F. 731,094



10 FEB 1934

body.

CA Rees

91a

Naval and Military Club,  
94, Piccadilly, W.1.

As from St Antony's College, Oxford.

Dear Goronwy,

Here are two copies of the Central Asian Review.  
As you will see from the folder our little party St Antony's are  
associated with the venture from now on.

And now a request. We are doing our best to launch it. Do you think  
you could conveniently send a copy to Astor, as a production of  
friends of yours and ask him (a) if there is anyone interested on the  
Observer with whom we could get into touch, and (b) if he thinks it  
worth a brief mention in the Observer review columns?

And any comments from yourself?

When do you come either to Oxford or London? Is M. a changed  
woman? Can the little angels still speak English.

Yrs

(? - Illegible).

Footman without a doubt. m. 10/2

1.B. 52629.

Address: Goronwy Rees K.C. M.A.  
Plas Penglais,  
Abingworth.

Origin: London, 7.15 pm 8 February 1934

Harris L. Adams  
Abingworth  
9.2.34 C. and G. m. sh. 10.

GPO

SS 281



CONFIDENTIAL

1 B 526 29

900

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

70 FEB 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Goronwy Rees Kx MA Principal Aberystwyth	London 7.15 pm	8 Feb.	From Putnam & Co. Publishers Re prepare to new book ANSWERS TO ERNST VON SOLOMON
Goronwy Rees Kx MA Plas Penlais Aberystwyth	London 7.15 pm	8 Feb.	One copy of the "Central Asian Review" (Another copy in a second envelope together with the attached letter (copy). (91a))
Goronwy Rees Kx Principal Aberystwyth	Aylesbury 7.45 pm	8 Feb.	Re Buckinghamshire College Estates.

(Place).....ABERYSTWYTH,  
Cardiganshire

I.B. 19.S.

*[Signature]*  
for Head Postmaster.

9 February 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

m 9/2

I.B. 52629.

89<sup>a</sup>

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

9 FEB 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> ~~photograph~~ them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Mr. Rees. Esq, Principal U.C.W., Aberystwyth.	Wembley 3.45 pm	6 Feb.	Re coffee Machine.

(Place).....

ABERYSTWYTH,  
Cardiganshire.

I.B. 19.S.

M. J. Harris  
for Head Postmaster.

8 February, 1954



88<sup>a</sup>

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

8 FEB 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Mr. Rees, Esq. Plas Penrhos, Aberystwyth	Llandre	5 Feb.	Invitation to dinner.
Do.	Llanwr. 1.	5 Feb.	Re <del>all</del> <del>books</del> apes of University College of Wales
Do.	Oxford 7. 15 pm	5 Feb.	Documents re All Souls
Mr. Rees, Esq. U.C.W. Aberystwyth (Personal)	Mold 12. 15 pm	5 Feb.	Invitation to speak to Flintshire Executive Committee.

(Place).....

I.B. 19.S.

for Head Postmaster.

6 February, 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

4 FEB 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. G. Rees, Esq., 140 Kingsland, Abingdon, the Cardiganshire	London W.1. 6-15 pm	2 Feb.	From Ballins and Ballins Surveyors Re College Land

(Place) ABERYSTWYTH,

I.B. 19.S.

for Head Postmaster.

3 February 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

3 FEB 1954

LB. 52629

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. G. Rees, Esq, Pleas Penrhyn, Aberystwyth	LONDON 7.15 pm	1 Feb	Dylan Thomas Memorial Magazine.
M. G. Rees n.c.w. Aberystwyth	Barry 8 pm	1 Feb	Dinner - Students Union.
Ditto	Penrhyn deudraeth 5.45 pm	1 Feb	Meeting of Rotarians
Ditto	Cricklewood 7.15 pm	1 Feb	Report on Meeting
Ditto	Illegible	1 Feb	Property and Insurance documents
M. G. Rees, Esq Pleas Penrhyn Aberystwyth	N. 20 (Registered)	1 Feb?	Documents - Property.

(Place) ABERYSTWYTH

I.B. 19.S.

for Head Postmaster.

2 February 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

1B. 52629.

85°

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. G. Rees, Esq. Plas Penlauric, Aberystwyth	London 6.15h	29 Jan	From Putnam & Co, Publishers Re. new book preface "Insurrection".
Principal Gwynn Rees u.c.w. Aberystwyth	Cruckwood 7.15h	29 Jan	From Done, Hunter & Co. Report on Estates.
Gwynn Rees, Esq. Principal u.c.w. Aberystwyth	London 6.15h	29 Jan	Minutes of University Committee meeting.

(Place)..... ABERYSTWYTH.....

I.B. 19.S.

Cardiganshire.

for Head Postmaster.

30 January 1954

(31st - Sunday - no delivery)



G P O

SS 281

Regd Papers I.B. 52629

Aberystwyth,

Cardiganshire.

29th January, 1954.

The Officer in Charge, Special Section,  
I. B.,

The attached letter was copied because

1. The envelope was marked "Personal", and
2. The last sentence is not easy to understand.

The letter was posted at London, S. W. 1 at 3.45 p.m. on 28.1.54  
and was addressed "Principal Goronwy Rees, Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth

*W. H. Davis*  
for HPmr.

JAN 1954

Te/DIA  
1/2/54.



1 B 52629 (Aberystwyth  
Cardiganshire.)

162, Ashley Gardens,  
London, S. W. 1.

Tel : Vic 8861

Jan 25th, 1954.

Dear Principal Rees,

Many thanks for your letter. The weekend of February 20th will suit me well. Perhaps by that time the weather may have changed a little. I hear it is difficult to move at all at home and the phones all out of order. I am fortunate to be up here though I never remember such a keen wind as London is enjoying at the moment ! I hope T. J. keeps quiet until it is a little warmer.

Kind remembrances.

Yours sincerely,

X CU. NLT. X  
Margaret S. Davies. X

GPO

SS 281



CONFIDENTIAL

1.B. 52629.

830

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Mrs. Lees King Pleas Penglais, Aberystwyth; Cardiganshire.	Oxford. 12.45 hr.	28/1/54	ap for glassware supplied
Principal fees N.C.W. Aberystwyth	London W1. 7.15 hr.	28 Jan	From Norman Baker, F.C.A. re Income Tax.
Mrs. Lees King Pleas Penglais Aberystwyth	Oxford ? hr. (illeg)	? Jan (illeg)	appeal for financial help for St Davids Cathedral.

30 JAN 1954

(Place) ABERYSTWYTH,

Cardiganshire.

I.B. 19.S.

W.J. Harris  
for Head Postmaster.

29 January, 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

1.B. 52629.

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to photograph them.82<sup>a</sup>

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Mr. Rees, Esq. Princedale W. C. W. Aberystwyth.	Brickleywood 7.15 km	27.1.54	Containing "Minstrel", sheeting and other amenities
Princedale Mr. Rees W. C. W. Aberystwyth	Bangor 6 oh.	27.1.54	Annual Reunion.

(Place).....

ABERYSTWYTH,

Cardiganshire.

I.B. 19.S.

29 JAN 1954

for Head Postmaster.

28 January 1954



Aberystwyth,  
Cardiganshire  
27. 1. 54

No 13, Shilstone,

Submitted. please.

The attached is a copy  
of a communication addressed to  
Goronwy Rees, Esq;  
Plas Penglais,  
Aberystwyth

Posted at Nottingham, 5. 0 pm  
on 26 Jan.

M J Harris Esq  
A R m

29 JAN 1954



Copy.

LB. 52629

81a

35, Holland Park,

W. 11.

26 January, 1954.

My Dear Goronwy,

During the course of the past week-end at Oxford, David, with whom I was staying, told me you had gone all academic again. Don't you ever settle? I only hope it is all you expected and that the wilds of Aberystwyth are congenial.

David suggested I write you as my career with the firm has come to an abrupt end. I had a minor nervous breakdown during the summer which necessitated hospital treatment and consequently the firm, [redacted] run riot have decided not to take any risks. I know that they are talking rubbish as does my own specialist but of course that doesn't make any difference.

In short therefore I'm on the market and I should be eternally grateful if whenever you see your erstwhile business contacts and you do happen to hear of anything going, you would keep my name in mind.

My qualifications for business are of course non-existent and my qualities, or lack of them, you already know. I'm particularly interested in personnel problems and would cheerfully go anywhere in the world.

I'm sorry to bother you and hope you will not put yourself out unduly.

My regards to your lady; your vast family I trust progresses favourably.

Love from us both.

As ever,

L.V. [signature]

Secret X. Ref  
in 1395/1970. PF. 781094.  
HALEY. L.T.D.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 MARCH 2022



CONFIDENTIAL

I.B. 52629.

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. L. Kees Esq Pleas Penglais Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire	Oxford 7.15pm	25 Jan 1954	Note of Transfer of £1,000 to Barclays Bank for the Credit of All Souls College.
Ditto	Oxford 7.15pm	26 Jan 1954	All Souls College Report.

(Place).....

I.B. 19.S.

for Head Postmaster.

27 January 1954



POSTED: Beaconsfield, 5.0pm 24.1.54

Copy in PR-604.596.

40, Berkeley Square,  
London, W. 1.

22nd January, 1954

Paper Read:-

Arthur O Dennis LL M

M. G. Rees, Esq.,

Plans Penglaise

Aberystwyth.

My Dear Gonny,

Thank you for your letter of the 19th January.

I am sorry about Friday, It was a mess up the whole day, but there it is.

MacNeice spoke to me. I gather the widow had been on to him asking for money yesterday, but I entirely agree with you that we should not get involved with the Swansea position.

See you soon anyway.

Yours ever

(Initials - Illegible)

?

26 JAN 1954

GPO

SS 281



CONFIDENTIAL

I.B. 52629

78

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

25 JAN 1954

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was ~~not~~ considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> ~~photograph~~ them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Principal Rees, Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth	London S.W. 1. 12.45 pm.	22 Jan	Arrangements to stay at Guezynog.
Principal W. G. Rees U.C.W. Aberystwyth	Cardiff "Paid"	22 Jan	Ticket for Welsh Folk Museum

(Place).....

ABERYSTWYTH

Cardiganshire.

I.B. 19.S.

*H. J. Harris*  
for Head Postmaster.

23 January, 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

I.B. 52629

BPA  
77aThe Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Principal G. Rees MA. University College of Wales Aberystwyth	Cricklewood 7.15.1m	21.1.54	Account of College Revenue (Oxford).
Ditto	Ditto	21.1.54	Enquiry regarding the sale of property at Queensbury & Edgware
Principal Gwynn Rees MA u.w. Aberystwyth	Stavefordwest Pembro	22.1.54	Appeal (to All Souls) for financial support

(Place).....

I.B. 19.S.

for Head Postmaster.

22 January, 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

I.B. 52629.

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.

It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. G. Rees Plas Penglais Aberystwyth	Oxford H. 4.5 pm	20/1/54	University Life Assurance Co. claim for repayment of Tax. Cheque for £60
M. G. Rees Plas Penglais Aberystwyth	Cambridge Paid	19/1/54	Booklet on Cambridge Spring Books.
M. G. Rees Prinival U.C.W. Aberystwyth	Birmingham 7.30 pm	20/1/54	Reaney Mitchell, Chatterick and Sutton, Solicitors acknowledging Mr Rees' failure to attend annual dinner.
M. G. Rees Prinival U.C.W. Aberystwyth	Aberystwyth 5.15 pm	20/1/54	Enquiry re possibilities of purchasing part of the U.C.W. Gogerddan Estate Aberystwyth.

(Place) ABERYSTWYTH,Cardiganshire.

I.B. 19.S.

22 JAN 1954

H. Harris  
for Head Postmaster.

21 January, 1954



21 JAN 1954

PA

75a

B. 52629

Aberystwyth,  
Cardiganshire.

The attached copy of a communication ~~posted~~ to  
Goronwy Rees, Esq., Prifathro  
Coleg Prifysgol Cymru  
Aberystwyth,

(Translation)  
Principal  
University  
College of  
Wales

Cardiganshire, is submitted.

Sender : James, Stern, 20F East 52 St, New York, 22, N.Y.

Postmarks : New York 17. Jan 16., 6.0 p.m.

Secured next after  
due course delivery.

*W. J. Harris*  
for HPmr.  
20. 1. 54



Copy.

January 14, '54. What fun I had writing your address !

Dear Goronwy,

I cannot tell you how delighted we were, not only to get your letter, but to see your address and learn of the revolution. I cannot remember when I've received as good news. For you, the children, and particularly for Margie. We can hardly wait to come and stay with you. (My only experiences in Wales have been confined to driving from London to Holyhead and a really terrible month in the coalmines during the depression. By a strange coincidence I was re-reading, only yesterday, an account I wrote of it which was published in New Writing in 1939 ! Re-reading it, I might add, not for pleasure but because it tied up with something I am trying to write about the Ghost Town of Colorado.

Dylan. I'm still shaken. I can imagine the rumours you heard. Unlike most rumours, they were probably true. I shall not add to them, except to say that 4 or 5 night before his death Harvey Breit (?) (D's death, needless to say) who has spent the last 6 months in this flat, gave a Party for D here which we were supposed to attend. Something happened and we couldn't go. Next H.B. wrote me that the Party (Mostly girls) hadn't been a great success, partly because some sod had insulted D and because D. himself had been in V. "bad shape". (He had been at Tim Costello's (my favourite Third Avenue Tavern keeper) since 10 that morning) He went into the coma about 36 hours later. Incidentally, will you please tell me how I go about sending a cheque -sterling, for I have hardly any dollars - to the Dylan fund. You don't need to write a letter, just tell me on a pc to whom I make out the cheque and to whom I address it and where.

I'm delighted to hear that Louis<sup>(?)</sup> has adapted and recorded your novel; I remember you talking about it after that John Lehmann lunch. I wish something of the kind would happen to me. All I have to record in that line is my fury at having been told last week that I had "just missed" making £ 2,500. 00 with a story over television. Montgomery Cliff, the actor guy, was to receive for the 10 minutes of reading - guess ! £ 17.000 (seventeen), & Arthur Miller 10 % of that for suggesting he read

GPO

SS 281



You will have to admit there is something to be said for a country where such crackpot things can happen ! (or not happen ! ) Jan 15. I was highly amused by your not having "realised Hedli is such an old friend of Tania's" - but of this another time; it's quite a funny story.

Incidentally, I reached the half century (strictly *entre nous*, of course) last night and this morning I am looking at these words with one - and seeing them none too well. - if you will forgive me saying so, I find it v. difficult to visualize you as a Principal of a University. What do you do ? Oddly enough, we dined a couple of nights ago with my only other connexion with Wales ; Erich Heller (have you read his Essay on Kafka in his "~~The Disinherited~~ Bisinherited Mind " ? ) who is Prof. of German at Univ. of S. Wales, Swansea. He is on 6 mos. leave of absence lecturing on the German Romantics at Harvard. This, by the way, is probably something you could do one day, if you are still interested in coming to this country. Can you "lecture"? If so, you can wander all over this country - & get paid. I doubt that we shall get back this summer - probably autumn. It can happen that I shall have to spend part of the summer "teaching creative writing" at some "summer school" in Massachusetts. God help me. I've never done such a thing - which is partly why I'm considering it. I'm ~~xxxxxx~~ one of the v. few so-called "writers" in this country who do not teach something - as you may have heard by now, Auden (?) has been awarded the Bollingen Prize. He came in just after he had heard the news; he is beginning to look old, face v. lined. That evening we dined with Conrad and Mary Aiken. Poor Conrad, I'm afraid he more than hoped to get the (?) Bollingen - on the strength of his *Collected Poems* (1000 pp. \$ 10.50!.)

Do you miss London ? The noise, the people, the pubs ? Do you know anyone in Aberystwyth ? Is that really your home town ?

Had one of those great letters from Bar recently. They always cheer me up. I often find myself thanking God for Bar. I really must stop - if only for some Vodka and tomato juice - this has now become my daytime winter drink. Do they (I can't remember) call it Bloody Mary in England ? Sounds more English than V.S. There's one really good vodka made here now, called Smirnoff. I can think of nothing I'd like more than for you and Margie to walk in this minute. On that wishdream I shall leave you - but do let's try to keep in touch.

With love to you both and my best to Harvey when you see or write him.

Jimmy S.



CONFIDENTIAL

I.B. 52629 PA

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

74<sup>a</sup>

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
Goreuwyddes Kg MA Pias Penglais, Aberystwyth	Aberystwyth 5. 0pm	19.1.54	A/c from Garage Proprietor

(Place).....ABERYSTWYTH,.....Cardiganshire -

I.B. 19.S.

21 JAN 1954

for Head Postmaster.

20 January,.....1954



CONFIDENTIAL

I.B. 52629

73<sup>a</sup>

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M.C. Rees Esq MA Plus Penglais Aberystwyth; Cardiganshire.	London W.1. 7.15 pm	18 Jan.	Referring to the Oglan Thomas Fund.
Sorenwy Rees Esq MA Prinhal University College Aberystwyth.	Aberystwyth. 5.0 pm	18 Jan	Invitation to address local school boys.
Mulgonwy Rees MA University College Aberystwyth.	Carlisle 4 pm.	18 Jan	Enquiring about the possibilities of purchasing a farm near Oxford.

(Place) ABERYSTWYTH,  
Cardiganshire.

I.B. 19.S.

21 JAN 1954

*W. Harris*  
for Head Postmaster.

19 January 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

I.B. 52629.

72a

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
M. G. Rees, Esq. Plas Penglais Aberystwyth Wales.	Reading 7.15 pm	17.1.54	a/c for L-2.0.
Principal Rees, Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth.	Aberystwyth 12.15 pm	17.1.54	a/c for home re-avail(1).

(Place).....ABERYSTWYTH.....

*W. J. Harris*  
for Head Postmaster.

I.B. 19.S.

19 JAN 1954

18 January 1954



CONFIDENTIAL

117 .      18/1/71<sup>a</sup>

The Controller, Investigation Branch,  
(Special Section).

The under-mentioned packets have been intercepted to-day.  
It was not considered necessary to <sup>copy</sup> photograph them.

Name and Address	Origin	Date	Short Summary of Contents
G. Rees, Esq. M.A., University College of Wales, Aberystwyth	London, W.C.	15 Jan 6.15 pm.	Patnam and Company, 42, St Russell St. Asking for production schedule on "Justification".
M. G. Rees, Esq. M.A., W.C.W., Aberystwyth	Cricklewold N.W.2.	15 Jan 7.15 pm	Dore, Hunter & Co. Asking for a copy of the Estates Bureau's Financial Report.

(Place) Aberystwyth

W. J. Harris  
for Head Postmaster.

16th January, 1954

I.B. 19.S.

18 JAN 1954



Postmark etc. Reading 7.15 pm 13.1.54

Heading : Sonning Auto Services.

High Street,

Sonning on Thames.

M. G. Reed, Esq.,

Plas Penglaise,

Aberystwyth,

Cardiganshire.

Wales.

12.1.54.

Dear Sir,

July Account £ 27.9.9d

We venture to draw your attention to the above account which is overdue, and has apparently escaped your notice, although a reminder was sent to you in November,

Will you therefore please oblige us by an early settlement.  
Assuring you of our best attention at all times,

Yours faithfully,

(Illegible)

Sonning Auto Services Ltd.

700  
P.A. RTR  
J. E. P. S.

Ref No  
1B.  
52629

GPO

SS 281

16 JAN 1954



Postmark etc London W.C.2 14. 1. 54 "Paid"

From : The Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company.

14.1.54.

Accountant's Dept.

JM

M. G. Rees, Esq.,

"Plas"

Penglais,

Aberystwyth.

Dear Sir,

Re Michaelmas Quarter Account

Referring to our letter of the 22nd December, we are disappointed at not having had from you a remittance for £20. 4s. 8d to clear the balance of this account. The Christmas Quarter account is now due and we attach a statement from which you will see the total balance owing for the two quarters is £28. 18s. -d. We trust we may look to you to deal with this matter without further delay.

Yours truly,

R. Waykin (?)

for Local <sup>m</sup>anager.  
m

(Statement not copied)

GPO

SS 281

16 JAN 1954



Postmarks etc Cricklewood NW2. 5pm 14 Jan

Cricklewood,

London, N.W.2.

Done, Hunter and Co.

14th Jan. 1954 $\frac{1}{2}$

W/AL

Dear Mr Rees,

I am very much obliged to you  
for sending me your cheque for £5.

Yours sincerely,

E. J. Wainwright.

M. G. Rees, Esq.,  
University College of Wales,  
Aberystwyth.

GPO

SS 281

16 JAN 1954



PA Case Nr. 1 B. 52629.

Aberystwyth,  
Cardiganshire.

69b

15 JAN 1954

14.1.54.

2 letters originating abroad.  
addressed to daughter of  
The M. & G. Rees. at Penclaw.  
Aberystwyth,  
Cardiganshire.

Aged 10/11 years.

both

Posted (22a) Homberg

Date and time illegible

both addressed

Irene Noll b Rees.

Plas Penclaw

Aberystwyth

Cardiganshire

England.

On back.

(1) Abs.: ELLI KOPPING HAMBERG  
(Ndrh) Augustastri 45

(2) Abs.: Willi NOLL Homberg (Ndrh)  
Augustastri: 45  
Germany!



Aberystwyth,  
Cardiganshire.

13.1.54

3 items  
4 Copies

addressed.

14 JAN 1954

M. G. Rees Esq. M.A.  
University College of  
Wales  
Aberystwyth.

Postmarks.

Crucklewood 2.15 pm  
12<sup>th</sup> Jan 54. N.W.2.

---

Letters No 2 & 3 secured

1<sup>st</sup> delivery

Letter No 4 secured Next  
delivery 12.30 pm.



Copy

Letter No.

69a

Done, Hunter & Co.,  
Land agents, etc.

1, Cricklewood Broadway,  
London, 12th January, 1954.  
N. W. 2.

14 JAN 1954

Dear Mr Rees,

Slaidburn  
Lanshaw Farm.

I am going up to Yorkshire next Monday when I shall be interviewing applicants for the tenancy of Lanshaw Far.

The present position is that I have received fifteen applications, but have discarded five of them because their tenders to rent are too low. The remaining tenders vary from £95 - £110 per annum, and I am afraid that I shall have to interview all of them in order to select the most suitable of them. The references of each of them appear to be satisfactory

The present rent of the farm is £92.17.0 per annum, and I expect to relet for not less than £100 per annum.

The date I shall be interviewing these men will be the 21st and 22nd January, and the new tenancy is expected to start on the 2nd February, so it is important to come to a prompt decision and to notify the successful applicant accordingly.

In these circumstances I am wondering whether you would kindly agree to waive the usual procedure on this occasion, and permit me to affect the letting immediately after the interviews, instead of waiting for your written authority.

Yours sincerely

G. N. Beckett (?)

M. G. Rees, Esq., M.A.  
The University College of Wales,  
Aberystwyth.

PO



Copy

Letter No 3

Cricklewood,

London, 12th Jan. 1954.

Dear Mr. Rees,

When I was last at the College you asked me to remind you about the £5 I handed to you when you were here in October.

I forgot all about it but our Accountant when making up our books came across the enclosed note. I am sorry I did not let you know about the matter before.

Yours sincerely

E. J. Wainwright (?)

M. G. Rees, Esq., M.A.  
University College of Wales,  
Aberystwyth.

Enclosure.

-----  
(Enclosure in manuscript).

9th Oct. 1953.

Due from Mr M. G. Rees.

£5 (Five Pounds)



Copy

Letter No 4  
with 1 copy of enclosure

1, Cricklewood Broadway,  
London, 12th January, 1954.  
N.W.2.

74 JAN 1954

Done, Hunter & Co  
Land Agents, etc.

B/GL

Dear Mr Rees,

Minsted.

Just before Sir Geoffrey Faber sailed for South Africa he sent me a long letter a copy of which I enclose. The second paragraph is a routine matter with which I will deal.

The reasons for forwarding Sir Geoffrey's letter to you are three-fold :-

Firstly, Sir Geoffrey draws attention to his liberal approach to the financing of the extension to Minsted House.

Secondly, it gives an unsatisfactory report with regard to Minsted shooting, with the general comment that the College Agents might have been more co-operative in connection with their forestry work.

Thirdly, there is a suggestion that the College should employ an outside practitioner to report on the forestry in relation to the shooting; a matter on which I must take your instructions.

With regard to the second observation above, I would say that where ~~sixty~~ Sir Geoffrey has expressed any particular wish about the Woods I have done my best to comply with it, but in a few cases I have not been able to do so in the interest of forestry and in others trouble has been apt to occur because I have ordered work which has subsequently proved unpopular. (This may have arisen because, not being a shooting man myself, I have not anticipated the particular needs of the shooting interest.)

I agree with Sir Geoffrey in thinking that the preservation of amenities at Minsted is important and it is depressing to hear that after twelve years the shooting is no

GPO

S 281



better than it was to begin with; I rather suspect that the position will not change much until a proper keeper is employed, but Sir Geoffrey has said that he cannot afford this.

The shooting is not a source of profit to the College, but this may not be a first consideration in this case.

Cont'd;

Mr. M. G. Rees, M. A.

Minsted-Shooting

- 2 -

I fully realise that, although Sir Geoffrey's letter is in a good natured vein, he is very sensitive about the shooting and his letter may not express the full extent of his disappointment.

With regard to his suggestion that someone should be employed to report on the shooting-cum-forestry I should welcome such advice; I have no one in mind at the moment as being particularly suitable for the job. but do not anticipate that I should find it difficult to get hold of somebody with the right type of experience.

Yours sincerely,

G. N. Beckett (?)

M. G. Rees, Esq., M.A.,  
The University College of Wales,  
Aberystwyth.

PO

281



## COPY LETTER.

Page 1

14 JAN 1954

From : Mr Geoffrey Faber,  
Messrs. Faber & Faber,  
24, Russell Square,  
London W. C. 1.

To : Geoffrey N. Beckett Esq.,  
Messrs. Done, Hunter & Co.,  
1, Cricklewood Broadway,  
London N.W.1.

30th December, 1953.

My dear Geoffrey,

We sail this afternoon by the "Rhodesia Castle" for Durban; and we shall be back (D.V.) at the very end of March. Miss Sayer has all addresses and I have left my Midhurst banking account fully primed. Work on the study extension is to start immediately. It will, I am afraid, cost the College the full amount it has promised, and me nearly twice as much. Perhaps I am an ass to spend so much upon what is not my property - but it is, at least, another earnest of my wish to stay at Minsted and to leave the property better than I found it; and I like to feel that the benefit of my over all expenditure on the property (which I hardly dare compute) will accrue to All Souls.

There is a point to which I meant to draw Mansel's attention; but I forgot to do so when I saw him yesterday. I have, however, asked him to communicate with you or E. J. W., about the electric wiring of the extension. I think that the wiring probably ought to be done by Chapman Lowry & Puttick of Haslemere, expensive as they are, since they did the re-wiring of the house. But I have recently discovered, what perhaps I should have already known, that the drawing-room circuit was not rewired, when the rest of the house was rewired, because it would have meant ripping up the just re-painted walls. I daresay that LJ is aware of this; but I hadn't remembered it. The circuit is faulty, and C.L. & P. recently had to do some dodgery to it (beyond my powers of understanding) in order to prevent it from frequently blowing the fuses. It might, therefore be sensible to have it rewired while we are away. If so, it will be necessary for the drawing-room walls to be at least partially repainted; and I should be grateful if D.M. & Co. would arrange for this to be done at my expense - of course at the lowest possible expense ! - before we return.

The other topic I want to write about is the perennial topic of the shooting, which alas ! continues to be the main thorn in my flesh as also perhaps in yours. I am sorry to say that, in spite of the birds reared last year and the year before, this year has been the very worst since I came to Minsted. I am in a state of extreme despondency about this decline of what ought to be a very particular amenity of the estate. I hadn't thought that you

PO

281



Page 7

regarded amenities as of much importance; but Attfield tells me that you took up the "amenity" argument rather strongly with him the other day, over the felling of isolated trees.

So perhaps I may find you rather more sympathetic to my views, as the sporting tenant's, than I have hitherto supposed; for the sporting value of the estate is an amenity for which any subsequent tenant or purchaser would presumably pay - if it existed. Each of the two valuers who have inspected the estate has cracked up its coverts, disappointing as their yields have been during my tenancy. (I think I sent you an abstract of my records from 1942/3 to 1951/2?) Last year (1952/3) I reared 500 pheasant and shot a total of 85. This year we have scored the magnificent total of 22, of which 7 have been shot in the Minsted bag has amounted to 15 birds. Several; so that the Minsted bag has amounted to 15 birds. True, I hadn't reared any birds this year; but this result is less by more than half than the lowest previous record; and it follows after two years when birds have been reared for the first time since before the war. (Wyllie, I am told, reared birds in one year only, and then only 350) Moreover, I have paid whatever it is that I do pay for the shooting, and in addition some £130 this last year for clearing the undergrowth.

Actually this clearance has been no more than cutting paths through the impenetrable wilderness of thorn and briar, down which the beaters idly strolled. I hadn't wanted this at all; but it was all that Jordan and his chaps could possibly do; and it has obviously been a sheer waste of money. So I have told Jordan that I don't intend to repeat this extravagance; and that I will, in future, simply pay my shooting rent, which includes the time he spends "keepering" and for his own time when he comes out with me.

You must agree that this is a very regrettable state of things, and that the sporting value of the property (which, as I have said, each valuer has particularly stressed) is rapidly approaching zero. I may be wrong, and I beg you not to think that I am agin your forestry operations; but I cannot help feeling that the main cause lies in the fact that you have gone all out for these and have paid inadequate attention to their effect upon the "sporting". Maybe you are right to do so. But such an estate as this ought not to suffer in this way surely? My expert friends tell me that it is perfectly possible to combine good forestry with sporting considerations. I am not an expert; but one doesn't need to be an expert to perceive that, as more and more



Page 3

sections of the woodlands are enclosed by rabbit wire, and more and more "holding" bits in the coverts are cleared, the pheasants will migrate elsewhere. Results speak for themselves, and are so utterly disheartening that I daren't again, invite guests to shoot at Minsted. It is hard to realise that one has squandered more than £1,000 in rearing birds and in bearing Jordan's extra wages and in trying (and failing) to get the undergrowth under control.

The results of all my expenditure is pour rire. The shooting, now, at Minsted is worth less than it was in 1942/43.

I do sometimes wonder if the forestry operations might not take a little more account of the shooting, and that the shooting tenant might be given some foreknowledge of what is going to happen and some opportunity of expressing an opinion. Recently, for example, you have cleared the rhododendrons in the middle of Starveacre, and then Warren down by the brook.. Both these were "holding" places; and I would have thought that they might have been rather less ruthlessly dealt with. At least, might I not have been consulted?

I have raised the "wire" question several times with you. Most (probably all) of your wired plantations have rabbits inside them. I have seen them! I wonder why you think it so important to keep the wire up? The wire is certainly driving the pheasants away; and it is a small comfort to me to be told that, in ten years or so you will begin to remove some of it. By that time I shall be past caring!

May I make a suggestion? Will you get somebody, who is equally interested in forestry and shooting, to come and look at Minsted? I don't offer to bear the cost; for I have spent far too much already to no purpose whatever. I feel that it is the turn of the College to take some step, at its own cost, to encourage the recovery of a value which two professional valuers have represented as an important asset; and which, nevertheless, and in spite of the tenant's very substantial outlay is rapidly vanishing.

Yours ever,

Signed : Geoffrey Faber.

PO

S 281



Aberystwyth,  
Cardiganshire.

13.1.54

addressed.

M. G. Rees Esq.  
Plas Penllais  
Aberystwyth

Posted Oxford.

12.1.54.. 12.45pm.

Secured first delivery



Copy.

Letter No 10

The Warden's Lodgings,  
All Souls College  
Oxford.

14 JAN 1954

Tel 2145

12th January. 1954.

M. G. Rees, Esq.,  
Plas Penglais,  
Aberystwyth.

Dear Mr Rees,

Walker thinks he can have all the figures ready for the Estates and Finance Committees on February 28th, so the Warden is settling that day for those Committees. Mr Dunbabin thinks that the Domestic Committee had better be at 5 p.m. on Saturday, 27th February, but will confirm that with the Warden when he gets back from London to-night or to-morrow morning. Notice of the Committees will be circulated in the usual way when they are all fixed up.

The Warden asked me to confirm the agenda for the meeting of the Finance Committee on January 17, as discussed in his letter to you of 7 December and your letter to him of 9 December.

1. C. U. F. Lectureships and stipends.
2. Repairs. Reserve Expenditure.
3. Motion for election of Sir Edward Bridges to Distinguished Fellowship.
4. Ilford. Help to Vicar for his children's education.
5. Secretaries (College, Warden's Bursary).
6. College Contributions (See Minutes of S. G. M. of 31 October, 1953)
7. Barford St. Martin (if you think this should be discussed.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Leake  
Cook UP.

Warden's Secretary.



SECRET

68A

P.F. 604,583/D.1.A/E.McB.

14 January, 1954.

Dear Mr. Saffery,

As spoken on the telephone I should be grateful if you will add Aberystwyth 7083 to H.O.W. No.1246.

The subscriber to this number is Morgan Goronwy REES, formerly of Falcon House, Sonning, Berks, who, as you informed me on 2 January, 1954, has now moved to Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire.

Yours sincerely,



E. McBarnet.

G.F. Saffery, Esq.,  
G.P.O.

SECRET

21/11/54  
14157



**SECRET**

67b

G. F. SAFFERY, ESQ.,  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPT.,  
G.P.O.

Box 500,  
Parliament Street B.O.,  
London, S.W.1.

Please \* Suspend

~~Re-impose~~

T.C. No.: 2137.

\* { ~~Temporarily~~

~~Indefinitely~~

Permanently (H.O.W. being retained) }

from forthwith. to.....  
(if known)

Date 13.1.1954.

Section D.I.A.

Signature E. McBarnet.

Copy to B.4.B. PF. 604,583.

Copy to file No.: .....

(\* Delete as necessary)

(Use this Form for both carbon copies).

S. Form 306 (rev. 10.52).



SECRET.

11716

7 January, 1954.  
67A

To THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL, and all others whom it may concern :

I hereby authorize and require you to detain, open and produce for  
my inspection all postal packets and telegrams addressed to :—

Morgan Goronwy REES  
Plas Penglais,  
Aberystwyth,  
Cardiganshire. &  
c/o The University  
College of Wales,  
Aberystwyth.

or to any name at that or any other address if there is reasonable ground  
to believe that they are intended for the said Morgan Goronwy REES.

and for so doing this shall be your sufficient Warrant.

REES. Morgan Goronwy, Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire. & c/o The  
University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. This man was a close friend of  
Guy BURGESS for many years and has admitted to collaborating in passing  
information to a Foreign Power. It is hoped by this check to acquire  
information on his current activities and contacts.

*One of Her Majesty's  
Principal Secretaries of State.*

PF. 604,583/D.1.A/EMCB.

S. Form 56.



SECRET

66A

PF. 604.583/D.1. A/EMcB.

7 January 1954.

Dear Mr. Harlow,

I am applying for a H.O.W. on Morgan Goronwy REES of Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire and c/o The University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, whom we propose to investigate.

M.G. REES was a close friend of Guy BURGESS for many years and in view of the letter recently received by Guy BURGESS' mother we are re-examining REES' case.

We should like to see all correspondence addressed to M.G. REES personally with the exception of locally posted letters.

Yours sincerely,



E. McBarnet.

G.A. Harlow, Esq.,  
G.P.O.

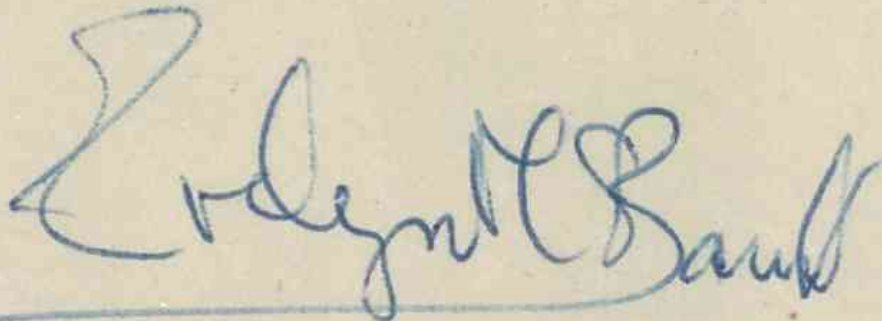
SECRET



64A.

Note for P.F. 604,583.

The enquiry to the G.P.O.  
on REES' present address shows  
that they have a record of a  
change of address on 29  
September, 1953. The new  
address being Plas Penglas,  
Aberystwith. Tel. No. Aberystwyth 7083

E. McBarnet.

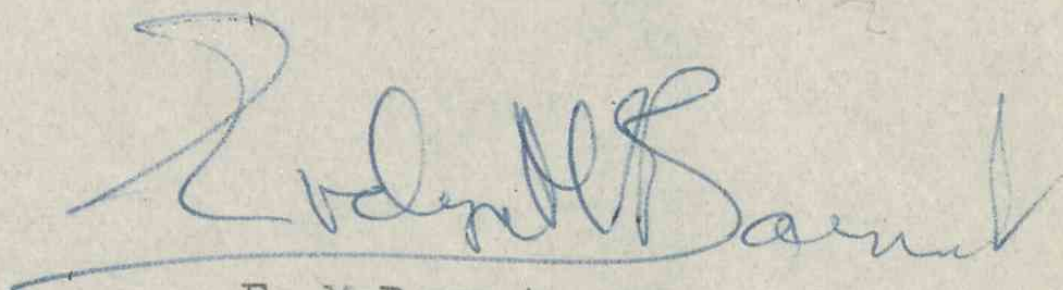
D. 1. A.  
2. 1. 54.



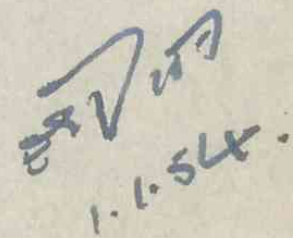
63A

Note for P.F. 604,583.

I telephoned this morning to Mr. Saffery to ask him to take steps to reimpose the telecheck on Sonning 3197. I told Mr. Saffery that we had learned that REES had, about three months ago, been appointed as Principal of the University of Aberystwith, but that we did not know whether he had retained the house at Sonning. Mr. Saffery said that he would endeavour to find out about this and that if he found that the REES were still living at Sonning he would reimpose the check.

  
E. McBarnet.

D.1.A.  
31.12.53.

  
1.1.54.



# The Informer and the Communist

By GORONWY REES

ON August 3rd, 1948, Mr. Whittaker Chambers, then a senior editor of *Time* magazine, testified before the notorious Committee on Un-American Activities in Washington that from 1934 to 1937 he had been an underground Communist agent, with the primary task of maintaining contact with a secret group of Communists in the service of the United States Government. Among the members of the group whom he named was Mr. Alger Hiss, a brilliant young lawyer and State Department official, who had recently, on the recommendation of Mr. John Foster Dulles, become President of the Carnegie Endowment for World Peace.

For the public this was the beginning of the Hiss case, which was to provoke one of the great State trials of history. To the host of Alger Hiss's friends and admirers (and all who knew him admired him) Mr. Chambers' evidence was, quite simply, incredible; nor was Mr. Chambers' past such as to increase his credibility as a witness. Yet as the case dragged on its protracted and painful course, punctuated by incidents which sounded as if they came from *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* (The Prothonotary Warbler; The State Department Documents; The Microfilms in the Pumpkin), it gradually and amazingly became clear that the evidence of Chambers, not Hiss, stood up best to examination; and in the end it was Hiss who was convicted of perjury and sentenced.

In the Dreyfus case there were to the end, and after, anti-Dreyfusards who believed that, even if Dreyfus was innocent, he should for the greater glory of France and her army be convicted. In the Hiss case there were many who believed that, even if Hiss were guilty, he should for the greater glory of American liberalism be acquitted. In accusing him Chambers had attacked what a malicious journalist described as "a certified gentleman," and a large and powerful body of Americans felt themselves personally affronted, traduced and—menaced. For these persons there was something diabolical about the short, fat figure of Hiss's accuser, the self-confessed agent and spy, to whom rumour and insinuation came to ascribe crimes and vices not less than those of Pope John XXII. He seemed a perjurer more squalid than Oates, a fabricator more successful than Pigott, a traitor more richly rewarded than Judas; and assured of a place in history at least as the first man to discover how to commit forgery by typewriter.

Mr. Chambers has now written his own story, under the title of *Witness*,\* which he intends both in its legal and its theological sense; and his book adds one more to the many surprises for which this very surprising man has been responsible. It was quite clear from Mr. Chambers' conduct and testimony in the Hiss case that, by any standards, he was a very remarkable man; it seems hardly reasonable that he should now also show himself to be a very remarkable writer. The memoirs of spies and agents and informers are on the whole very dreary reading. Mr. Chambers, in addition to his other talents, possesses great literary gifts, most of all the gift of impressing on every sentence he writes the force of his own original, bizarre and extremely powerful personality.

Many readers will not find that personality sympathetic, and *Witness* is in many ways not a sympathetic book. There is a Messianic strain in Mr. Chambers; he sees himself as a mixture of Christ crucified, a Daniel come to judgement, and the Bishop of Digne. And whether as a Communist or, later, as a Quaker, he has something of the self-righteousness of the justified sinner. Indeed it is of James Hogg's strange masterpiece that *Witness* most reminds one; though its full flavour requires also a dash of Rousseau and Dostoevsky, and of some of the documents in *The Varieties of Religious Experience* (Mr. Chambers has enjoyed most of them).



FEBRUARY 20, 1953

20

concern is with Cairo, where the negotiations about the Canal Zone must now be proceeded with. The aim must always be to be building from the west, on the basis not of dependence on but of alliance with the west.

## R'S NOTEBOOK

Christianity instead of expounding it. The iconoclastic element overshadows the scholastic—an unnecessary and regrettable defect of treatment.

\* \* \* \*

The Simplified Spelling Bill jointly sponsored by Mr. Isaac Pitman and Mr. Mont Follick might be regarded simply as one of Mr. Follick's frolics—the Member for Loughborough is a most amiable man, but the House of Commons has never consented to take him very seriously—but for the fact that the House very nearly gave a second reading to a Bill on much the same lines in the course of the 1945 Parliament. But it is hard to conceive of any such measure getting much farther than that. In such matters as spelling the British people is resolutely conservative—quite right too, in my judgement. We have far too noble a literary heritage for us to break away wantonly from it. Mr. Follick may no doubt make play with recent statistics of illiteracy in the Army and elsewhere, and contend that more people would learn to read if it were easier to learn to read. Possibly. But to read what? Only literary products presented in the same fantastic spelling as the reader would have learned at school under Mr. Follick's régime? However, never mind that. I predict that people will go on spelling in the old way and reading books written in the old way long after Mr. Follick and his children, if he possesses any (which I think for good reasons is not the case), have passed to a region where etymology and the like may matter less than it does here.

\* \* \* \*

The Press Council is definitely to come into being. I have always thought such a body unnecessary, and I never liked the controversial spirit in which it was first proposed. But now that it is taking shape I wish it nothing but well. It starts with a good many advantages. The draft of its constitution is the work of the two sides, managerial and editorial, of the profession, full agreement seems to have been arrived at, and while the list of its functions could be, if not criticised at least profitably discussed, it will no doubt be capable of revision in the light of experience. One sound principle has been laid down, in the stipulation that complaints about the conduct of papers should be accepted only from persons actually affected; without that safeguard the Commission might well be flooded with a mass of silly and vexatious representations none of which could be dismissed completely unexamined. To start with a good constitution is much, but it is in its actual working that the Commission will prove itself.

\* \* \* \*

The tourist allowance, I observe, has been raised from £500 to £750. Unfortunately it is the Australian allowance, not the British. The latter remains obstinately pegged at £25. While that annoys me a great deal it should give pleasure to Mr. Ashley Courtenay, who has just produced, for the twentieth successive year, his well-known volume *Let's Halt Awhile* with its list of carefully-selected British hotels, with their prices and descriptions, sometimes a little lyrical, of their various virtues. The book costs 8s. 6d., and it can be obtained through Simpkin, Marshall. It deals with all varieties of hostelries. Though I do not always agree with Mr. Courtenay, and could not expect to, I recommend his book as a serviceable guide to perplexed persons planning a holiday at home this year.

\* \* \* \*

The Shah has very rightly hurried to the scene of the Persian earthquake. He probably got there faster than the Indian District Commissioner who heard, while returning by sea from leave, of a serious disaster in the area for which he was responsible. He at once cabled his sympathy, adding "Am travelling day and night to reach you." He was. The liner carrying him



R. T. Reed.

REGIMITE  
Code 5-35-0

11.54

© Crown Copyright



m 322

Box 500,  
PARLIAMENT STREET B.O.,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

617A

File/Section reference: ...P.F. 604, 583/D.1..A/E. McB.

To Mr. G. A. HARLOW,  
G.P.O.

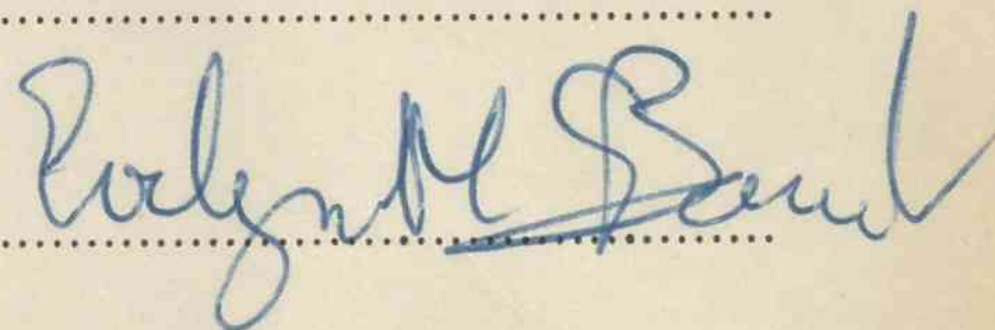
Turn of Correspondence required for.....14.....days  
upon the following, please:

.....Morgan Goronwy REES,.....

.....Falcon House, Sonning, Berks. ....

Date: 30.12.53. ....

Signature: .....



E. McBarnet.



601A

LOOSE MINUTE.

✓ P.F. 604,583. REES.  
P.F. 604,584. PEACH.

D.1.

RALEIGH (REES),  
SONNING 3197.

This telephone number is used by Geromvy REES who was a close friend and associate of Guy BURGESS. The check has produced useful information and we should, therefore, like to retain it.

PEACH (PHILBY),  
ROTHERFIELD 403.

This telephone number is used by H.A.R. PHILBY who was a close friend and associate of Guy BURGESS and who is himself suspected of being a Soviet agent. The check provides valuable information about his current activities and employment and we should, therefore, like to retain it.



E. McBarnet.

D.1.A.  
15.12.53.



59A

For P.A. in PF.604,582 BLUNTDEN  
PF.604,583 REES  
PF.604,584 PEACH  
Original in PF.604,597

Extract from interview with on 25.11.53

.....

I saw                      at the Ministry of Transport in the  
presence of                      on 25.11.53.....

                     knew Kim PHILBY as he knew Goronwy REES,  
slightly, through their friendship with BURGESS.....

D.  
3.12.53

G.R. Mitchell

89/11A  
15.12.53

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 OCTOBER 2020



Rees pg PF 604583

58A

## CUTTING FROM DAILY TELEGRAPH

27th February 1951

Telegraph  
Feb 27th 53

## A Servant of Truth

### Speculative Gossip

By GORONWY REES

*The Missing Diplomats.* By Cyril Connolly. (The Queen Anne Press. 5s.)

THIS very well produced little book is an expanded and revised version of two articles by Cyril Connolly which appeared in the Sunday Times in September, 1952, with a foreword by Peter Quennell, vouching for Mr. Connolly's credentials ("Agile and intensely active brain," "indolence," "man of feeling," "vitality and imaginative sympathy," "his strength of will is positively royal.")

One is not at all sure that these are the first qualities one would look for in a contemporary chronicler, especially since such ordinary virtues as respect for fact and for sources are not so evident in this book.

Indeed, Mr. Connolly's treatment of fact is very high-handed: "Let us put aside the facts of which we know so little and consider the personalities involved." This does not prevent Mr. Connolly from relying largely on rumour, obiter dicta, and third- or fourth-hand information. "I have not talked to many of the people I should wish . . ."; "Words began to reach us that . . ."; "It seems that . . ."; "He is said to have . . ."; these are the words with which Mr. Connolly introduces what he regards as evidence.

However, this may not matter because Mr. Connolly does not profess to be investigating facts; what he

Bon Vivour's article will appear next Friday.

is after is deep analysis of character. He is M. Poirot, not Inspector French. Laying bare the souls of the two diplomats, he wishes to dispose of the explanations of their disappearance which are psychologically impossible and to reduce to a minimum the possibilities which are consistent with their characters.

#### Don Quixote

After laying down such propositions as: "All politics begin in the nursery" (what he really means is that they end there), and "before we can hurt the fatherland, we must hate the father," he proceeds to an analysis of character from which it emerges that Donald Maclean was Don Quixote struggling to be Sir Eyre Crowe, and Guy Burgess was Sancho Panza disguised as a John Buchan adventurer wittily named Brigadier Brilliant, O.B.E.

These characters, however, are purely mechanical constructions, of such peculiar design that their limbs groan and creak in the effort to simulate life. The unreality of these fictions is perhaps best demonstrated by the very much concluded to which they lead. Connolly. "Somewhere I feel . . . the comic genius of Burgess is standing sentinel over the tragic propensities of Maclean." If Mr. Connolly believes this he can believe anything.

Mr. Connolly's real interest is not to solve the mystery but to exploit the missing diplomats as a theme for speculative gossip. Surely to write in this way about young and living persons must give pain to those who were and are fond of them; but Mr. Connolly has persuaded himself that the interests of Truth must come first.

#### Lonely Eminence

The servant of Truth also warns us against condemning people unheard; from his lonely eminence he administers a stern rebuke to those who "jump to unfavourable conclusions."

Such admonitions leave Mr. Connolly free to describe the missing diplomats as neurotic, pathological and abnormal. An unwary reader might be surprised by such comments on two young men who might be supposed to be Mr. Connolly's friends, since he writes about them at such length.

His surprise, however, will be dispelled by the solemn assurance in Mr. Quennell's foreword that never, never, was either of the two diplomats a friend of Mr. Connolly's. But perhaps, in reading this curious little book, the reader is likely to be most surprised by the contrast between the adulatory and sycophantic terms of Mr. Quennell's account of Mr. Connolly, who is still with us, and Mr. Connolly's uncharitable reconstruction of the psyches of the two missing diplomats, who are not.



Rees PF 604583  
57A

Extract from "THE SPECTATOR" dated 20.2.53

FEBRUARY 20, 1953

It would be impossible, in a short article, to do justice to every aspect of this strange book. And it is indeed not one book but many; it is a brilliant account of the decay and collapse of a middle-class family; it is the record of a religious conversion; it is a factual description of the Communist underground; not least, it is an intensely exciting narrative of the Hiss case. Such richness of material strains even Mr. Chambers' powers of composition; one of the recurring themes that give unity to the book is Mr. Chambers' picture of what makes men Communists and what Communists are like.

On one of his many appearances to give testimony, Mr. Chambers was asked by a Grand-Jury member, no doubt somewhat dazed by Mr. Chambers' revelations: "Mr. Chambers, what does it mean to be a Communist?" He replied by saying that when he was a Communist he had three heroes. The first was the Pole Dzerzinsky, organiser of the Red Terror, who as a political prisoner in Warsaw insisted on being given the task of cleaning the latrines of the other prisoners, because he believed that the most advanced members of a community should take on the lowliest tasks as an example to those who were less highly developed. The second was the Jew Leviné, leader of the Workers and Soldiers Soviets in the Bavarian Republic of 1921. When told at his court-martial that he was under sentence of death, he answered: "We Communists are always under sentence of death." The third was the Russian Sazonov, who was sent to Siberia for his part in the assassination of Plehve. In Siberia he tried to find a way to protest against the abominable conditions in the prison camps; he drenched himself with kerosene, set himself on fire, and burned himself to death.

This, says Mr. Chambers, is what it means to be a Communist; the two qualities he distinguishes in his former comrades, now enemies, are, firstly, that of self-sacrifice raised to a degree which amounts to complete contempt of and indifference to one's personal fate; and, secondly, an immense force of will, based upon the conviction that there are no obstacles which cannot be overcome. It is the faith which will move mountains; or as the slogan has it, "There is no fortress which a Bolshevik cannot take."

Total sacrifice of self, an unconquerable will—these are very nearly the marks of the saints. Yet Mr. Chambers is very far from believing that Communists are saints, and no one could excel him at describing the jealousies, intrigues, treacheries, the prurience, moral squalor and mutual distrust, that afflict the internal life of all Communist Parties. But he does not make the mistake which others have made, the same mistake, perhaps, as a Roman patrician might have made about the early Christians. He does not believe that because Communism, outside the Soviet Union, necessarily attracts the neurotic, the unbalanced, the pathological, the movement can be nothing but the reflection of the collective neuroses of its members. On the contrary; the facts show that from such material Communism can create a wonderfully effective political instrument. The problem is precisely how the miracle is achieved.

Mr. Chambers' answer to this problem is essentially a simple one. Communism, he says, draws its strength from two sources, the working-class and the intellectuals. The working-class is driven to Communism by long-term economic pressure, but the intellectual responds to a vision. "An educated man, peering from Harvard Yard, finds in the vision the two certainties for which the mind of man tirelessly seeks; a reason to live and a reason to die. No other faith of our time presents him with the same practical intensity."

What is the vision? It is, says Mr. Chambers, the vision of a world without God, by which he means a world in which men are free to remake and transform the world as they wish. It is the vision of introducing a reason, an order and a plan into human history; and since history itself has raised men from the zoological slime to the heights of this vision, and provided them with the tools and the technique to translate it into reality, the vision is no longer a Utopia, but a practical and immediate programme of action. "Its first commandment is found not in the Communist Manifesto, but in the first sentence

THE SPECTATOR, F

of the physics primer: 'All of the progress of mankind to date results from the making of careful measurements'."

This vision, says Mr. Chambers, is the Communist revolution; and it has a power over men's minds sufficient to inspire the total sacrifice of self and the force of will which Communism demands. And the sacrifice of self is total, in the sense of willingness not only to suffer and die, but of discarding those moral inhibitions which, bourgeois society teaches, are the most precious part of the self. The very enormity of the crimes and sacrifices demanded is, for the Communist, not an obstacle to faith but the touchstone and proof of its sincerity. Moreover, in a world of war and revolution, there is no means of avoiding crime, suffering, destruction: the only question worth considering is whether they shall occur for a reason or for no reason, for a purpose or no purpose. Communism is a house with many mansions. There are some Communists, the Nechayers of the movement, for whom crime and suffering add a sadistic sauce to the rough fare of revolution. There are others, sensitive and humane men, who shudder at the cost which the revolution entails in human suffering; but their very humanity will not allow them to permit that the cost shall be paid for no reason and to no purpose.

Such is Mr. Chambers' answer to the question, "What does it mean to be a Communist?" and in giving it he has given one of the few accounts of Communism which are equal to the heights and depths of the subject.



rm 81/rev. 1.52.

56A

## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No.: P.F. 604,583 Name: REES  
Serial in File No.: \* P.F. 604,584 Serial: 662 Vol: ..... Receipt Date: 26.11.52  
Original from: Telecheck Under Ref.: T.C. 3193 Dated: 25.11.52  
Extracted on: 1.12.52 by: JA Section: B.2.b

Extract from telecheck on H.A.R. PHILBY: - conversation between  
Aileen PHILBY and Mrs. BASSETT ment. REES.  
-----

Mrs BASSETT had not seen GORONWY for some time - not  
since the Observer articles. AILEEN said they had not  
but then they had never known him frightfully well.



**SECRET**

F. SAFFERY, ESQ.,  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPT.,  
G.P.O.

Box 500,  
Parliament Street B.O.,  
London, S.W.1.

Please \* Suspend  
~~Re-impose~~

T.C. No.:.....**2137**.....

\* { ~~Temporarily~~  
Indefinitely  
~~Permanently~~ (H.O.W. being retained) } from.....**forthwith**.....to.....  
(if known)

Date.....**19.11.52**..... Section.....**B2A**..... Signature.....**C.A.G. Simkins**

Copy to B.4.B.  
Copy to file No.:.....**P.F. 604, 583 ✓**.....

(\* Delete as necessary)  
(Use this Form for both carbon copies).

Form 306 (rev. 10.52).



54A

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT  
UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF  
THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958.



231 10  
S. Form 143/rev. 2.

SECRET

Part 1.

Section and Officer of origin... B.1.F./RT Report No. 1940 Report Date 2.10.52.

Action copy to B.2.A./Mr. Burbidge. Information copy to

## REPORT

Goronwy REES.

inherited a flourishing family business. He is not a Communist but is tolerant of the Left-wing point of view. He was an admirer of the literary work of Goronwy REES and gave him a job in his firm as publicity agent. He knows that REES was mixed up with BURGESS and MACLEAN, but does not attach any importance to it as REES is very good at his work.

RT/DKW.

Part II.

## COMMENTS BY SECTION OF ORIGIN

Source knows REES

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 OCTOBER 2020

Part III.

## COMMENTS BY CONSUMER SECTION

(Value, interest, probability, extent to which confirmed by other sources, etc.)



S. Form 81/rev. 1.52.

552

## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No.: PP 604 583 Name: REES  
 Original in File No.: \* [redacted] Serial: 117a Vol.: 2 Receipt Date: 5.11.52.  
 Original from: Note on Interview. Under Ref.: - Dated: 5.11.52.  
 Extracted on: 5.2.53. by: BL Section: IS

Extract from B.2.A. Note re Interview with [redacted] on 1.11.52 and mentioning REES.

\* If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file owner

2. On the 1st. November 1952, I saw [redacted] as arranged at Room 055, War Office I went through the history of his association with BURGESS commencing from the time of his introduction to him at a Party given by Tom WILIE, the Resident clerk at the War Office, in 1937 up to the date of BURGESS' disappearance. I hope in this report though to avoid useless repetition and will attempt to provide only such information as is additional to the earlier interview reports and to the statements taken from more recently by Commander Burt of Special Branch.

Goronwy REES (PP.604583).

He was a regular visitor to the Chester Square flat and went on being friendly with BURGESS for years. [redacted] recalls that there were many occasions when he found BURGESS and REES together and he was asked to leave them alone to continue their conversation, perhaps for half an hour. He would not necessarily assume for this reason alone that the relationship was a sinister one, but it did have aspects for which he could not provide any other explanation.

/over...

THIS IS A COPY  
 ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
 IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
 3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
 ACT 1958 OCTOBER 2020



P.A. PF.604583 - RALEIGH.  
(Original in PF.604591 - HEWIT)

S2A

Extract from report by Mr. Skardon, B.2.A., on  
enquiries made to trace HEWIT's present  
address etc.

.....Having had a discussion on the telephone with Mrs. BASSETT (BURGESS's mother) on the 19th September, I had become aware through her that HEWIT was back in London, and accordingly I spoke to her asking if she had any information as to his present whereabouts. She said that she did not know where he was living, but thought it extremely likely that either Anthony BLUNT or Goronwy REES would be able to tell us where he is. She offered to make the enquiry for us, but I said that we could manage.....

B.2.A.  
27.9.52.

RF  
slw



S. Form 81/rev. 1.52.

## EXTRACT.

SIA

Extract for File No.: PF.604,483 Name: RALEIGH

Original in File No.: PF.709,170 Serial: 25a Vol: ----- Receipt Date: -----

Original from: B.2.A./B.2.B. note on  
article in Sunday Times by Under Ref.: ----- Dated: 25.9.52.  
Cyril CONNOLLY

Extracted on: 26.9.52. by: REM Section: B.2.A.

Extract from B.2.A./B.2.B. note on article in Sunday Times by CONNOLLY  
ment. REES

.....

3. Column 3, last paragraph

BURGESS' "great friend" and the "talented and beautiful woman, a novelist", are clearly Goronwy REES and Rosamund LEHMANN respectively.....

\* If the original is in the file of an individual in the name of the file owner

*Handwritten signature/initials*



**SECRET****B.4.B. BRIEFING SHEET**

Issued.....

## Part I.

Section concerned **B.2.A.** Case Officer **Mr. Simkins** Room No. **313** Ext. No. **136**TC/SF/TC and SF is being imposed on: **Morgan Goronwy REES** P.F. **604,583**  
(delete as necessary) (subject of case)Telephone No. **Sonning 3197** as an INFORMATION/ACTION Case  
(delete as necessary)

Objectives, including names and matters of special interest:

Morgan Goronwy REES was born at Aberystwyth on 29th November 1909 and is married to Margaret Ewing REES nee MORRIS. REES has been a fellow of All Souls College Oxford since 1931/32 and was a Don at New College Oxford. From 1932 to 1933 he was with the Manchester Guardian. From 1935 to 1939 he was an assistant editor of the Spectator. From 1939 to 1946 he served in the Army, for some time as an instructor in the Intelligence Corps, and from 1946 to the present time he has been employed by the Farrington Works and H. Pontifex and Sons, a subsidiary of which is Bennet Sons and Shears, <sup>ex 38-42</sup> 81, 99 George Street, Manchester Square, W. 1. REES is usually to be found with this latter firm. He is, however, simultaneously the bursar of All Souls College Oxford and an expert in Russian philosophy, sociology etc.

REES was a friend of Guy BURGESS whom he had known since about 1932 when BURGESS was at Cambridge. He is also known to be on friendly terms with a number of BURGESS' acquaintances such as HEWIT, PHILBY, BLUNDEN and Rosamund LEHMANN.

REES was interviewed by this office a short time after the disappearance of BURGESS and MACLEAN. In his statement he mentioned that BURGESS had told him some time about 1937 that he was working on behalf of the Comintern and that he wished REES to become one of his sources of information, adding that BLUNDEN was another. He added, however, that both had given up this association at the time of the German/Soviet Pact.

BURGESS called on the REESes on the same day that he arrived in the U.K. from the United States some three weeks before his disappearance in May 1951.

REES also disclosed that on 25th May 1951 BURGESS rang Mrs. REES, with whom he conversed on the telephone for about an hour. According to REES, it was a most unusual conversation, BURGESS shewing extreme distress; he appeared to be disheartened about the world situation and the imminence of war. He also indicated that he was about to take some step or other which would shock his friends.

It is also worth noting in the present context (i.e. that of CONNOLLY's article) that REES had an affaire with Rosamund LEHMANN, the authoress, some time early in the war in about 1941. It is of some interest that LEHMANN had known REES since about 1937 and related that REES told her of BURGESS' approach to him on Comintern business.

to the Security  
Service

B.2.A.  
25.9.52.

Sim 187A  
25.9.52



Form 81/rev. 1.52.

## EXTRACT.

119A

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,483 Name: RALEIGH  
 Final in File No.: PF. 709,170 Serial: 22a Vol: ..... Receipt Date: .....  
 Original from: Article by CONNOLLY Under Ref.: ..... Dated: 21.9.52.  
 Extracted on: 26.9.52. by: REM Section: B.2.A.

Extract from article in Sunday Times of 21st September 1952 by  
Cyril CONNOLLY ment. REES

..... BURGESS and a [great friend] of his would sometimes stay with a  
 talented and beautiful woman, a novelist who, in those days, resembled an  
 irreducible bastion of the bourgeoisie entirely surrounded by Communists,  
 like the Alcazar of Toledo.

One day BURGESS's friend came to her shaken and yet impressed. Guy had  
 confided to him that he was not just a member but a secret agent of the  
 Communist Party, and he had then invited him to join in this work. The  
 friend had refused with concern; and for her part the novelist felt  
 that BURGESS' Fascism was suddenly explained .....



SECRET

48a

G. F. SAFFERY, ESQ.,  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEPT.,  
G.P.O.

Box 500,  
Parliament Street B.O.,  
London, S.W.1.

Please \* Suspend  
Re-impose

T.C. No.: 2137

\* { Temporarily  
Indefinitely  
Permanently (H.O.W. being retained) } from 18.9.52.

Date 17.9.52. Section B.2.A. Signature F.M. Small.

Copy to B.4.B.  
Copy to file No.: PF604,583.

(\* Delete as necessary)  
(Use this Form for both carbon copies).

S. Form 306 (rev. 10.51).

17.9.52



